~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE REPORT

February 26, 2014

**H. 4551**

Introduced by Reps. Limehouse, Sottile and Hardwick

S. Printed 2/26/14--H.

Read the first time January 23, 2014.

**THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NATURAL**

**RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 4551) to amend Section 50‑5‑1705, as amended, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to catch limits for certain species of fish, so as to provide, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, Section 50‑5‑1705(L), as contained in SECTION 1, by deleting / unhooked and / on line 30, page 1.

When amended Section 50‑5‑1705(L) shall read:

/ (L) It is unlawful to take or possess a great white shark (Carcharodon carcharias). Any great white shark that is caught must be released immediately and must remain completely in the water at all times while being released. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

NELSON L. HARDWICK for Committee.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑5‑1705, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO CATCH LIMITS FOR CERTAIN SPECIES OF FISH, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO TAKE OR POSSESS A GREAT WHITE SHARK (CARCHARODON CARCHARIAS), AND TO PROVIDE THAT ANY GREAT WHITE SHARK THAT IS CAUGHT MUST BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY AND MUST REMAIN COMPLETELY IN THE WATER AT ALL TIMES WHILE BEING UNHOOKED AND RELEASED.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 50‑5‑1705(L) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 7 of 2013, is further amended to read:

“(L) It is unlawful to take or possess a great white shark (Carcharodon carcharias). Any great white shark that is caught must be released immediately and must remain completely in the water at all times while being unhooked and released.

(M) The possession limits do not apply to the possession or sale of properly identified fish imported by seafood dealers or produced by permitted mariculture operations, or to possession as allowed under permit authorized by this chapter.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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