

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Committee on Natural Resources recommends the following:

2  
3 **Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to marine fisheries; amending s. 370.14,  
7 F.S.; requiring certain persons to obtain and exhibit a  
8 crawfish trap number for certain purposes; providing a  
9 fee; specifying use of a portion of the fee; requiring a  
10 fee for spiny lobster harvesting; correcting a reference;  
11 amending s. 370.143, F.S.; including crawfish traps under  
12 a Fish and Wildlife Commission trap retrieval program;  
13 including crawfish traps under a commission authorization  
14 to waive certain trap retrieval fees under certain  
15 circumstances; providing an effective date.

16  
17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18  
19 Section 1. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 370.14,  
20 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

21 370.14 Crawfish; regulation.--

22 (2)(a) Each person ~~trap used for~~ taking or attempting to  
23 take crawfish with ~~must have~~ a trap in commercial quantities or

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24 for commercial purposes shall obtain and exhibit a crawfish trap  
25 number, as required by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
26 Commission. The annual fee for a crawfish trap number is \$125  
27 ~~permanently attached to the trap and the buoy.~~ This trap number  
28 may be issued by the ~~Fish and Wildlife Conservation~~ commission  
29 upon the receipt of application by the person when ~~owner of the~~  
30 ~~traps and~~ accompanied by the payment of the a fee ~~of \$100~~. The  
31 design of the application ~~applications~~ and of the trap number  
32 shall be determined by the commission. Any trap or device used  
33 in taking or attempting to take crawfish, other than a trap with  
34 the trap number ~~attached as prescribed in this paragraph~~, shall  
35 be seized and destroyed by the commission. The proceeds of the  
36 fees imposed by this paragraph shall be deposited and used as  
37 provided in paragraph (b). The commission may adopt rules to  
38 carry out the intent of this section. Persons not using traps to  
39 commercially harvest spiny lobster shall pay an annual fee of  
40 \$100.

41 (b) Twenty-five dollars of the \$125 fee for a crawfish  
42 trap number required under paragraph (a) must be used solely for  
43 trap retrieval as provided under s. 370.143. The remainder of  
44 the fees collected pursuant to paragraph (a) shall be deposited  
45 as follows:

46 1. Fifty percent of the fees collected shall be deposited  
47 in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for use in  
48 enforcing the provisions of paragraph (a) through aerial and  
49 other surveillance and trap retrieval.

50 2. Fifty percent of the fees collected shall be deposited  
51 as provided in s. 370.142 (5) ~~(6)~~.

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52           ~~(6) A person who takes more crawfish per boat or per~~  
53 ~~person than that number set therefor by rule of the Fish and~~  
54 ~~Wildlife Conservation Commission for recreational harvesters~~  
55 ~~within any 24-hour period by any method other than with traps or~~  
56 ~~similar devices must also pay a fee of \$100 and obtain a trap~~  
57 ~~number to be displayed on his or her boat.~~

58           Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 370.143,  
59 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

60           370.143 Retrieval of lobster, crawfish, and stone crab  
61 traps during closed season; commission authority; fees.--

62           (1) The ~~Fish and Wildlife Conservation~~ commission is  
63 authorized to implement a trap retrieval program for retrieval  
64 of lobster, crawfish, and stone crab traps remaining in the  
65 water during the closed season for each species. The commission  
66 is authorized to contract with outside agents for the program  
67 operation.

68           (2) A retrieval fee of \$10 per trap retrieved shall be  
69 assessed trap owners. However, for persons holding a crawfish  
70 endorsement or a stone crab endorsement issued under rule of the  
71 ~~Fish and Wildlife Conservation~~ commission, the retrieval fee  
72 shall be waived for the first five traps retrieved per  
73 endorsement issued. Traps recovered under this program shall  
74 become the property of the commission or its contract agent, as  
75 determined by the commission, and shall be either destroyed or  
76 resold to the original owner. Revenue from retrieval fees shall  
77 be deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund and  
78 used solely for operation of the trap retrieval program.

79           Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.