

By Senator Lawson

6-1816-04

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the taking of fish and  
 3           shellfish; amending s. 370.14, F.S.; increasing  
 4           the fee for the trap number required for  
 5           commercial crawfish trapping; providing for the  
 6           use of a portion of the fee; amending s.  
 7           370.143, F.S.; clarifying that crawfish traps  
 8           are included in the trap retrieval program of  
 9           the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;  
 10          assessing crawfish trap owners the retrieval  
 11          fee assessed other trap owners; providing for  
 12          waiver of the retrieval fee under certain  
 13          circumstances; providing for the use of  
 14          revenues from retrieval fees; requiring payment  
 15          of retrieval fees before a license is renewed;  
 16          amending s. 372.57, F.S.; providing for a 3-day  
 17          recreational freshwater fishing license for  
 18          nonresidents; increasing fees for various  
 19          nonresident freshwater and saltwater fishing  
 20          licenses; amending s. 372.571, F.S., relating  
 21          to the expiration of licenses and permits;  
 22          conforming cross-references; providing an  
 23          effective date.

24  
 25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

26  
 27           Section 1. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 370.14,  
 28 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

29           370.14 Crawfish; regulation.--

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

1 quantities, or for commercial purposes, must obtain and  
2 exhibit a crawfish trap number, as required by the Fish and  
3 Wildlife Conservation Commission. The fee for a crawfish trap  
4 number is \$125 ~~number permanently attached to the trap and the~~  
5 ~~buoy.~~ This trap number may be issued by the ~~Fish and Wildlife~~  
6 ~~Conservation~~ commission upon the receipt of an application by  
7 the person and ~~owner of the traps and~~ accompanied by the  
8 payment of a fee of \$125~~\$100~~. The design of the applications  
9 and of the trap number shall be determined by the commission.  
10 Any trap or device used in taking or attempting to take  
11 crawfish, other than a trap with the trap number attached as  
12 prescribed in this paragraph, shall be seized and destroyed by  
13 the commission. The proceeds of the fees imposed by this  
14 paragraph shall be deposited and used as provided in paragraph  
15 (b). The commission may adopt rules to carry out the intent of  
16 this section.

17 (b) Twenty-five dollars of the \$125 fee required for a  
18 crawfish trap under paragraph (a) or subsection (6) must be  
19 used solely for trap retrieval under s. 370.143. The  
20 remainder of the fees collected pursuant to paragraph (a)  
21 shall be deposited as follows:

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

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

28 (6) A person who takes more crawfish per boat or per  
29 person than that number set therefor by rule of the Fish and  
30 Wildlife Conservation Commission for recreational harvesters  
31 within any 24-hour period by any method other than with traps

1 or similar devices must also pay a fee of \$125~~\$100~~ and obtain  
2 a trap number to be displayed on his or her boat.

3 Section 2. Section 370.143, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 370.143 Retrieval of crawfish, lobster, and stone crab  
6 traps during closed season; commission authority; fees.--

7 (1) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is  
8 authorized to implement a trap retrieval program for retrieval  
9 of crawfish, lobster, and stone crab traps remaining in the  
10 water during the closed season for each species. The  
11 commission may ~~is authorized to~~ contract with outside agents  
12 for the program operation.

13 (2) A retrieval fee of \$10 per trap retrieved shall be  
14 assessed trap owners. However, for persons holding a crawfish  
15 trap number or a stone crab endorsement issued under rule of  
16 the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the retrieval  
17 fee shall be waived for the first five traps retrieved for  
18 each number or endorsement issued. Traps recovered under this  
19 program shall become the property of the commission or its  
20 contract agent, as determined by the commission, and shall be  
21 either destroyed or resold to the original owner. Revenue  
22 from retrieval fees shall be deposited in the Marine Resources  
23 Conservation Trust Fund and used solely for operation of the  
24 trap retrieval program.

25 (3) Payment of all assessed retrieval fees shall be  
26 required prior to renewal of the trap owner's saltwater  
27 products license and stone crab and or crawfish endorsements.  
28 Retrieval fees assessed under this program shall stand in lieu  
29 of other penalties imposed for such trap violations.

30 (4) In the event of a major natural disaster in an  
31 area declared by the Governor to be a disaster emergency area,

1 such as a hurricane or major storm causing massive trap  
2 losses, the commission shall waive the trap retrieval fee.

3 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 372.57, Florida  
4 Statutes, is amended to read:

5 372.57 Recreational licenses, permits, and  
6 authorization numbers; fees established.--

7 (5) NONRESIDENT HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES.--The  
8 licenses and fees for nonresidents participating in hunting  
9 and fishing activities in the state are as follows:

10 (a) Freshwater fishing license to take freshwater fish  
11 for 3 consecutive days, \$15.

12 (b)~~(a)~~ Freshwater fishing license to take freshwater  
13 fish for 7 consecutive days, \$24~~\$15~~.

14 (c)~~(b)~~ Saltwater fishing license to take saltwater  
15 fish for 3 consecutive days, \$15~~\$5~~.

16 (d)~~(c)~~ Saltwater fishing license to take saltwater  
17 fish for 7 consecutive days, \$24~~\$15~~.

18 (e)~~(d)~~ Annual freshwater fishing license, \$36~~\$30~~.

19 (f)~~(e)~~ Annual saltwater fishing license, \$36~~\$30~~.

20 (g)~~(f)~~ Hunting license to take game for 10 consecutive  
21 days, \$45.

22 (h)~~(g)~~ Annual hunting license to take game, \$150.

23 (i)~~(h)~~ Annual license to take fur-bearing animals,  
24 \$25. However, a nonresident with a valid Florida hunting  
25 license who is taking fur-bearing animals for noncommercial  
26 purposes using guns or dogs only, and not traps or other  
27 devices, is not required to purchase this license.

28 Section 4. Section 372.571, Florida Statutes, is  
29 amended to read:

30 372.571 Expiration of licenses and permits.--Each  
31 license or permit issued under this chapter must be dated when

1 issued. Each license or permit issued under this chapter  
2 remains valid for 12 months after the date of issuance, except  
3 for a lifetime license issued pursuant to s. 372.57 which is  
4 valid from the date of issuance until the death of the  
5 individual to whom the license is issued unless otherwise  
6 revoked in accordance with s. 372.99, or a 5-year license  
7 issued pursuant to s. 372.57 which is valid for 5 consecutive  
8 years from the date of purchase unless otherwise revoked in  
9 accordance with s. 372.99, or a license issued pursuant to s.  
10 372.57(5)(a), (b), (c), (d), or (g) ~~(f)~~ or (8)(g) or (h)2.,  
11 which is valid for the period specified on the license. A  
12 resident lifetime license or a resident 5-year license that  
13 has been purchased by a resident of this state and who  
14 subsequently resides in another state shall be honored for  
15 activities authorized by that license.

16 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

17  
18 \*\*\*\*\*

19 SENATE SUMMARY

20 Increases the trap number fee required for commercial  
21 crawfish trapping. Provides for revenues from fee  
22 increase to be used for trap retrieval. Clarifies that  
23 crawfish traps are included in the trap retrieval program  
24 of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.  
25 Provides for a 3-day recreational freshwater fishing  
26 license for nonresidents. Increases fees for other  
27 nonresident freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses.  
28  
29  
30  
31