

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: SB 1018

INTRODUCER: Senator Boyd

SUBJECT: Sale of Aquaculture Products

DATE: March 4, 2021

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Becker</u>	<u>Becker</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>EN</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1018 allows for largemouth bass to be sold by an aquaculture producer or a dealer with a nonrecreational license from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Largemouth bass may be sold without restriction so long as the product origin can be identified.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.

II. Present Situation:

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) Division of Aquaculture (division) is Florida's lead aquaculture agency. The division coordinates and assists in the development of aquaculture and regulates aquafarms to protect and conserve Florida's natural resources.¹

The department issues certificates of registration to aquaculture producers under s. 597.004, F.S.² Certified aquaculture producers and dealers licensed pursuant to part VII of ch. 379, F.S., are permitted to sell aquaculture products except those otherwise prohibited by law and those for which the origin of the product is unknown.³ Specifically prohibited species include shellfish, snook, and any fish of the genus *Microperterus*, and prohibited restricted freshwater and marine species identified by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.⁴

¹ Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *Division of Aquaculture*, <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Aquaculture> (last visited Mar. 1, 2021).

² Section 597.004, F.S.

³ Section 597.004(5), F.S.

⁴ *Id.*

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 1018 amends s. 597.004, F.S., to remove the species *Micropterus salmoides* (largemouth bass) and the subspecies and hybrids thereof from species which are prohibited to be sold by certified aquaculture producers and dealers with a nonrecreational license from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Certified aquaculture producers and dealers with a nonrecreational license from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission could see a financial benefit from the ability to offer largemouth bass for sale.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends s. 601.10 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
