

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to country of origin for wild and  
3           farm-raised fish; amending s. 500.11, F.S.; providing  
4           that wild and farm-raised fish are considered  
5           misbranded under certain circumstances; creating s.  
6           500.601, F.S.; requiring the Commissioner of  
7           Agriculture and Consumer Services to establish the  
8           Florida Wild Fish and Seafood Certification Program;  
9           providing commissioner and Department of Agriculture  
10          and Consumer Services duties; providing program  
11          requirements for fishermen, seafood dealers, and wild  
12          fish and seafood products; creating s. 500.65, F.S.;  
13          requiring food establishments selling wild or farm-  
14          raised fish to provide specified information relating  
15          to the fish on a sign; providing requirements for the  
16          sign; defining the term "wild or farm-raised fish";  
17          creating s. 509.1011, F.S.; requiring public food  
18          service establishments selling wild or farm-raised  
19          fish to publish specified information relating to the  
20          fish through certain means; providing requirements for  
21          publishing such information; providing applicability;  
22          defining the term "wild or farm-raised fish"; amending  
23          s. 509.292, F.S.; providing penalties for mislabeled  
24          wild and farm-raised fish; providing an effective  
25          date.

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

**Section 1. Paragraph (q) is added to subsection (1) of section 500.11, Florida Statutes, to read:**

500.11 Food deemed misbranded.—

(1) A food is deemed to be misbranded:

(q) If it is wild or farm-raised fish not labeled in accordance with s. 500.65.

**Section 2. Section 500.601, Florida Statutes, is created to read:**

500.601 Florida Wild Fish and Seafood Certification Program.—

(1) (a) The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall establish the Florida Wild Fish and Seafood Certification Program. The program shall establish a quality certification program for Florida wild fish and seafood products, including wild-caught shrimp, which are taken, harvested, or landed in this state. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall adopt rules to establish the program and program standards. The standards must include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Harvest requirements.
- 2. Compliance standards.
- 3. Packaging requirements.

51        4. Certification protocols.

52        (b) The commissioner may consult with the Department of  
53 Health, state universities, and other state or federal agencies  
54 deemed appropriate, when establishing regulatory authority over  
55 and requirements for the program.

56        (2) All wild fish and seafood products intended to be  
57 certified and marketed as Florida wild fish or Florida wild  
58 seafood product must meet all criteria and requirements  
59 established in rule by the department. Any fish or seafood  
60 product sold or attempted to be sold under the program that  
61 fails to meet the requirements of the program must be  
62 immediately removed from the market and disposed of, as  
63 prescribed by department rule.

64        (3) Any fisherman or seafood dealer who wishes to  
65 participate in the program shall apply to the department, in a  
66 manner prescribed by the department, to be issued a  
67 participation permit. The permit may be suspended or revoked by  
68 the department for a violation of the requirements of the  
69 program. Any holder of a permit who harvests or markets wild  
70 fish or wild seafood products in accordance with the program may  
71 market the wild fish or wild seafood products as Florida wild  
72 fish and Florida wild seafood products.

73        **Section 3. Section 500.65, Florida Statutes, is created to**  
74 **read:**

75        500.65 Labeling of wild and farm-raised fish.—

76 (1) Each food establishment selling wild or farm-raised  
 77 fish that originated outside of the United States shall provide  
 78 whether the fish is wild or farm-raised and the country of  
 79 origin for such fish or denote that such fish is imported in  
 80 letters no smaller than the same size, font, and shade as the  
 81 fish being offered is listed, by means of a label, stamp, mark,  
 82 placard, or other visible sign on the package, display, holding  
 83 unit, or bin containing the fish at the final point of sale or  
 84 by posting a sign stating such information. The sign must be at  
 85 least 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches tall and placed not less than  
 86 36 inches from the floor located in a conspicuous location where  
 87 the fish is held for offer using English letters not less than 1  
 88 inch in size.

89 (2) For purposes of this section, the term "wild or farm-  
 90 raised fish" includes fish and shrimp. The term does not include  
 91 crabs, lobsters, oysters, crayfish, clams, or scallops.

92 **Section 4. Section 509.1011, Florida Statutes, is created**  
 93 **to read:**

94 509.1011 Labeling of wild and farm-raised fish.—

95 (1) Each public food service establishment selling wild or  
 96 farm-raised fish that originated outside of the United States  
 97 shall provide the country of origin for such fish and:

98 (a) Display on its menus the country of origin of the fish  
 99 and whether the fish is wild or farm-raised in letters no  
 100 smaller than the same size, font, and shade as the wild or farm-

101 raised fish being sold is listed, immediately adjacent to the  
102 menu listing;

103 (b) Affix to its menus a piece of paper with the country  
104 of origin of the fish and whether the fish is wild or farm-  
105 raised in letters no smaller than the same size, font, and shade  
106 as the wild or farm-raised fish being sold is listed; or

107 (c) Post a sign stating the country of origin for the fish  
108 and whether the fish is wild or farm-raised. The sign must be at  
109 least 8.5 inches wide and 11 inches tall and placed not less  
110 than 36 inches from the floor and be located in a conspicuous  
111 location where the fish is held for sale using English letters  
112 not less than one inch in size.

113  
114 The requirements of this subsection apply to any dish served by  
115 a public food service establishment that contains any wild or  
116 farm-raised fish that originated outside of the United States.

117 (2) For purposes of this section, the term "wild or farm-  
118 raised fish" includes fish and shrimp. The term does not include  
119 crabs, lobsters, oysters, crayfish, clams, or scallops.

120 **Section 5. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (1) of**  
121 **section 509.292, Florida Statutes, to read:**

122 509.292 Misrepresenting food or food product; penalty.—

123 (1) An operator may not knowingly and willfully  
124 misrepresent the identity of any food or food product to any of  
125 the patrons of such establishment. The identity of food or a

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126 | food product is misrepresented if:

127 |       (d) For wild or farm-raised fish, the wild or farm-raised  
128 | fish is not labeled in accordance with s. 509.1011.

129 |       **Section 6.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.