

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 636

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CAUTHORN.

Pre-filed December 1, 2005, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

3538S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 252, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to hand fishing, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 252, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new
2 section, to be known as section 252.250, to read as follows:

**252.250. 1. Nothing in section 252.040 shall preclude a person
2 from hand fishing for catfish or carp in the months of June and July in
3 the state of Missouri under regulation by the department of
4 conservation.**

**5 2. Hand fishing shall be permitted twenty-four hours a day in all
6 waters within the jurisdiction of this state that are currently open for
7 hook-and-line fishing of catfish and carp, as provided in this chapter.**

**8 3. Any person engaging in hand fishing shall be limited to the
9 taking of no more than five catfish per season. The department of
10 conservation shall have the authority to increase the season limits
11 using information contained in reports submitted by persons engaged
12 in hand fishing each year as they are established in this subsection and
13 studies conducted by the department. Within ten days following the
14 close of the season, a complete report on a form furnished by the
15 department shall be submitted by any person taking catfish by
16 hand. Failure to submit an accurate and complete annual report shall
17 be sufficient cause for denial of a fishing permit the following
18 season. Any person engaging in hand fishing for carp shall not be
19 bound by the requirements laid out in this section for catfish.**

**20 4. Any person engaging in hand fishing shall use only their bare
21 hands to do so. No hooks, poles or ropes with hooks attached, gaffs,**

22 spears, nets, or other man-made devices shall be used. Any person
23 engaging in hand fishing shall not use any scuba equipment, air hose,
24 or other artificial breathing apparatus. Such person shall not place
25 any artificial structures in the water or alter any natural or artificial
26 structures. Such person shall not raise any part of a natural or
27 artificial structure out of the water to aid in the taking of carp or
28 catfish by hand fishing.

29 5. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be
30 guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Unofficial ✓

Bill

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