Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 576 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas	$\overset{As \; Engrossed:}{ABill}^{S3/13/19}$		
2	92nd General Assembly	A DIII	HOUSE DIVI 1640	
3	Regular Session, 2019		HOUSE BILL 1640	
4 5	By: Representatives D. Garne	er, D. Whitaker, Clowney, C. Fite		
6	By: Senator B. Ballinger			
7	Dy. Schwier D. Dunniger			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled		
9	AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE ALLIGATOR GAR AS THE OFFICIAL			
10	PRIMITIVE FISH OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR			
11	OTHER PURPOSES.			
12				
13				
14		Subtitle		
15	TO D.	ESIGNATE THE ALLIGATOR GAR AS THE	1	
16	OFFICIAL PRIMITIVE FISH OF THE STATE OF			
17	ARKA	NSAS.		
18				
19				
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:			
21				
22	SECTION 1. DO N	NOT CODIFY. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.		
23	The General Assembly finds:			
24	<u>(1) Arkar</u>	nsas is one (1) of only five (5) s	states that does not	
25	designate an official	state fish;		
26		designation of an official state p	-	
27	conservation and educational benefits, increases interest in Arkansas's rich			
28	and diverse fauna, and promotes the important study of fisheries and			
29	<u>ichthyology;</u>		_	
30		alligator gar, Atractosteus spatul	-	
31	recognized by most citizens of the State of Arkansas for its razor-sharp			
32	teeth and its stone-hard scales, which make it as tough as the Arkansas			
33	Razorback;			
34	(4) Alligator gar in Arkansas have been known to exceed eight feet (8') in length and two hundred forty pounds (240 lbs.) in weight, by far			
35 36	_		ids.) in weight, by far	
20	the largest fish in Ar	L Kalibab i		

As Engrossed: S3/13/19 HB1640

1	(5) The alligator gar has for centuries been one (1) of		
2	Arkansas's most remarkable resident creatures, with its scales used by Nativ		
3	Americans for arrowheads and its striking features likely noted by Spanish		
4	explorer Hernando De Soto, who described eating a fish "the size of a hog,		
5	with rows of teeth above and below" in his exploration in the 1500s of what		
6	later became the State of Arkansas; and		
7	(6) While acknowledging the known diversity of fishes		
8	represented in Arkansas's lakes and rivers, the General Assembly concludes		
9	that the alligator gar shall represent the State of Arkansas as the official		
10	primitive fish of the State of Arkansas.		
11			
12	SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 1, is amended		
13	to add an additional section to read as follows:		
14	1-4-134. State primitive fish.		
15	(a) The alligator gar is designated the official primitive fish of th		
16	State of Arkansas.		
17	(b)(l) This section does not require a state agency or office to		
18	republish a publication or brochure in order to list or display the alligato		
19	gar.		
20	(2) A state agency or office may include the information		
21	concerning the state primitive fish in future publications or brochures or is		
22	a scheduled update to a publication or brochure.		
23	(c) This section does not grant a protected status to the alligator		
24	gar.		
25			
26			
27	/s/D. Garner		
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30	APPROVED: 3/27/19		
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