

Hall of the House of Representatives
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2797

"TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL BAIT AND ORNAMENTAL FISH PROGRAM UNDER
THE STATE PLANT BOARD."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2797.

Amend House Bill No. 2797 as originally introduced:

Add Senator Glover as a cosponsor of the bill

AND

Add Representatives Davenport, Norton, Overbey, Prater, Rankin, Scroggin, and Wood as cosponsors of the bill

AND

Page 1, delete lines 21 and 22 and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 2, Chapter 5, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

2-5-201. Title – Purpose.

(a) This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Act".

(b) The purpose of this subchapter is to:

(1) Establish a voluntary certification program to provide high quality, farm-raised bait and ornamental fish, free of certain diseases, undesirable plants, undesirable animals, and other contaminants deemed injurious to the fish or fisheries;

(2) Conduct programs to promote the use and sale of certified bait and ornamental fish raised in Arkansas; and

(3) Provide state oversight and funding from the beneficiaries of the program.

2-5-202. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Board" means the State Plant Board; and

(2) "Person" means individuals, partnerships, limited liability companies, corporations, associations, or two (2) or more individuals having a joint or common interest.



2-5-203. Powers and duties of State Plant Board.

(a) The State Plant Board shall:

(1) Administer this subchapter and the Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Fund;

(2) Certify the commercial bait and ornamental fish that meet the standards and qualifications of the board under this subchapter;

(3) Investigate methods of production and the occurrence of certain diseases, undesirable plants, undesirable animals, and other contaminants of commercial bait and ornamental fish and fisheries;

(4) Conduct marketing programs to promote the use and sale of certified bait and ornamental fish raised in Arkansas; and

(5)(A) Promulgate all rules and regulations the board considers necessary or desirable to implement this subchapter.

(B) The board shall establish in its rules and regulations the management practices, testing procedures, and appropriate science criteria required for certification under this subchapter.

(b) The board may authorize its director to appoint any deputies it considers necessary to implement this subchapter.

2-5-204. Certificates.

(a) Persons that have met the standards and qualifications established by the State Plant Board under this subchapter shall receive from the board a commercial bait and ornamental fish certificate.

(b) The certificate shall be in the form prescribed by the board and shall attest that the commercial bait and ornamental fish covered by the certificate have met the standards and qualifications established by the board under this subchapter.

(c) The certificate shall only be displayed by persons that are certified under this subchapter.

2-5-205. Fees.

(a) The State Plant Board may prescribe application, certification, and other fees to cover the costs of inspection, certification, and marketing under this subchapter.

(b) All fees collected under this subchapter shall be deposited in the Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Fund to be used by the board to administer this subchapter.

2-5-206. Unlawful acts – Penalties – Revocation of certificate.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to:

(1) Use the term "Arkansas certified" or any similar term concerning the quality of bait or ornamental fish without the proper certification from the State Plant Board;

(2) Falsely advertise or represent any bait or ornamental fish as being certified by the board;

(3) Use any emblem, label, or language for the purpose of misleading persons into believing that any bait or ornamental fish has been certified by the board when the certification has not been obtained;

(4) Misuse any tag, label, or certificate issued by the board;

(5) Obtain or attempt to obtain the certification of any bait or ornamental fish by making false statements or misrepresentations to the board or to the board's inspectors, deputies, or agents;

(6) Violate any of the rules and regulations of the board under this subchapter; or

(7) Violate any agreement made as a condition for receiving a certificate.

(b) Any person who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is found guilty of violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense.

(c)(1) A certificate issued under this subchapter may be revoked by the Director of the State Plant Board after a hearing before the director, irrespective of whether a prosecution is commenced.

(2)(A) Any person whose certificate is revoked by the director shall be entitled to an appeal to the board.

(B) The decision of the board on appeal shall be final.

2-5-207. Intergovernmental cooperation.

In administering this subchapter, the State Plant Board may cooperate to the fullest extent possible with other agencies of the state and the federal government.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 6, Subchapter 4 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

19-6-499. Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Fund.

There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be known as the "Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Fund" to be used by the State Plant Board to administer the Commercial Bait and Ornamental Fish Act, § 2-5-201 et seq."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative L. Evans
DLP/RCK - 03-14-2005 13:22
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Chief Clerk