

HB248 ENGROSSED



1 ME5BHW-2

2 By Representatives Lipscomb, Kiel, Shaw, Butler, Robertson,
3 Underwood, Rigsby, Rehm, Sorrells, Marques, Woods, Stringer,
4 Hurst, Oliver, Wood (D), DuBose, Cole, Reynolds, Pringle,
5 Brown, Shedd, Lee, Whitt, Bolton, Easterbrook, Kirkland,
6 Ensler, Travis, Hollis, Givens, Holk-Jones, Shirey, Lamb,
7 Gidley, Lovvorn, Paramore, Hill, Standridge, Crawford,
8 Harbison, Estes, Kitchens, Colvin, Faulkner, Rafferty, Lomax,
9 Ellis, Smith

10 RFD: Ports, Waterways & Intermodal Transit

11 First Read: 04-Apr-23

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13 2023 Regular Session



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to natural resources; to require the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to issue a permit for the introduction of black bass into the Coosa River in certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall issue a permit to a municipality or private entity associated with fishing or conservation allowing the introduction and placement of black bass into the Coosa River if all of the following are satisfied:

(1) The municipality or private entity obtains the black bass from a fish hatchery located in this state that is approved by the department.

(2) The only black bass being introduced or placed into the Coosa River are the Northern Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides salmoides*) subspecies, the Florida Bass (*Micropterus salmoides floridanus*) subspecies, or a first generation offspring of these two subspecies.



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29 (3) The municipality or private entity bears all costs
30 associated with the purchase, transport, and introduction of
31 black bass.

32 (b) The commissioner, under his or her authority
33 granted in Section 9-2-2 and 9-2-7, Code of Alabama 1975, may
34 deny a permit for the introduction and placement of black bass
35 into the Coosa River due to environmental, pathogenic, or
36 biological factors or for the protection of public health and
37 welfare.

38 (c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the
39 commissioner from issuing permits for the introduction and
40 placement of other subspecies of black bass into segments of
41 the Coosa River when the commissioner determines that the
42 introduction and placement of those subspecies is appropriate
43 for the fishery.

44 (d) The Department of Conservation and Natural
45 Resources shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this
46 section.

47 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first
48 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
49 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and referred04-Apr-23
to the House of Representatives
committee on Ports, Waterways &
Intermodal Transit
Read for the second time and placed12-Apr-23
on the calendar:
0 amendments
Read for the third time and passed02-May-23
as amended
Yeas 105
Nays 0
Abstains 0

John Treadwell
Clerk