

2005 SESSION

INTRODUCED

051610212

HOUSE BILL NO. 2029

Offered January 12, 2005

Prefiled January 11, 2005

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-574 of the Code of Virginia, relating to nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species; penalty.

Patrons—Amundson, Ebbin, Rust, Scott, J.M., Shannon, Sickles and Watts; Senators: Ticer and Whipple

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-574 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 29.1-574. Prohibitions; penalty.

~~No~~ A. Any person ~~shall who knowingly import, possess, transport, sell, purchase, give, receive, or introduce imports, possesses, transports, sells, purchases, gives, receives, or introduces~~ into the Commonwealth any member of a species designated as a nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species without a permit from the Director issued pursuant to § 29.1-575 *is guilty of a Class 6 felony. In addition, such person may be subject to the penalties under § 29.1-577.*

B. Subsection A shall not apply to any person who (i) lawfully catches a snakehead fish of the family *Channidae*, (ii) subsequently kills such fish, and (iii) notifies the Department, as soon as practicable, of his actions.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities and \$0 for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

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