

2005 RECONVENED SESSION

REENROLLED

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

An Act to amend and reenact § 29.1-574 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-313.2, relating to nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species; penalty.

[H 2029]

Approved

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-574 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-313.2 as follows:

§ 18.2-313.2. Introduction of snakehead fish or zebra mussel; penalty.

*Any person who knowingly introduces into the Commonwealth any snakehead fish of the family Channidae, or knowingly places or causes to be placed into state waters any zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) or the larvae thereof, without a permit from the Director of Game and Inland Fisheries issued pursuant to § 29.1-575 is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.*

§ 29.1-574. Prohibitions.

A. No person shall knowingly import, possess, transport, sell, purchase, give, receive, or introduce 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.

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.

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