

House Bill 1059

By: Representatives Lane of the 146th, Morris of the 155th, Stokes of the 92nd and Keen of the 174th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 27-4-130.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 open seasons, creel and possession limits, and minimum size limits for certain finfish species,
3 so as to provide for a maximum legal size of red drum; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 27-4-130.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to open
8 seasons, creel and possession limits, and minimum size limits for certain finfish species, is
9 amended by striking in its entirety subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
10 "(b) The board shall establish open seasons and creel and possession limits within the
11 maximums specified in this subsection and shall establish minimum sizes within the range
12 specified in this subsection; provided, however, that it shall be unlawful to have in one's
13 possession or take from the salt waters of this state any red drum in excess of ~~27~~ 23 inches
14 in total length. After October 1, 1989, it shall be unlawful to take the following salt-water
15 finfish species at any time except during the open seasons so established for such species
16 or to take or possess the following salt-water finfish species except in accordance with the
17 creel and possession limits and minimum sizes so established for such species:

1	<u>Species</u>	<u>Maximum</u> <u>Open</u> <u>Season</u>	<u>Maximum</u> <u>Daily</u> <u>Creel and</u> <u>Possession</u> <u>Limit</u>	<u>Range of</u> <u>Minimum</u> <u>Sizes</u>
2	(1) Spanish mackerel	Mar. 16 – Nov. 30	40	10 – 18 inches
3	(2) King mackerel	All year	15	15 – 35 inches
4	(3) Cobia	Mar. 16 – Nov. 30	10	20 – 40 inches
5	(4) Red snapper	All year	20	12 – 20 inches
6	(5) Gag grouper	All year	20	12 – 36 inches
7	(6) Amberjack	Mar. 16 – Dec. 31	10	20 – 50 inches
8	(7) Black sea bass	All year	35	8 – 15 inches
9	(8) Bluefish	Mar. 16 – Nov. 30	25	12 – 20 inches
10	(9) Sheepshead	All year	50	8 – 16 inches
11	(10) Reserved			
12	(11) Reserved			
13	(12) Reserved			
14	(13) Tarpon	Mar. 16 – Nov. 30	5	65 – 90 inches
15	(14) Atlantic sturgeon	Jan. 1 – June 30	5	24 – 86 inches
16	(15) Red drum	All year	25	14 inches
17	(16) Dolphin	All year	15	12 – 24 inches
18	(17) Sand tiger shark	No open season	1	87 – 140 inches
19	(18) Small sharks	All year	4	30 – 54 inches
20	composite			
21	(Atlantic			
22	sharpnose,			
23	bonnethead, and			
24	spiny dogfish)			
25	(19) Sharks	All year	2	48 – 120 inches
26	(20) Red porgy	All year	10	12 – 28 inches"

1

SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.