

House Bill 1126

By: Representatives Morris of the 155th and Lane of the 146th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish, so
2 as to define a certain term; to require a license or permit for certain animals; to repeal
3 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

6 Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish, is amended by
7 inserting immediately following paragraph (40) of Code Section 27-1-2, relating to
8 definitions relative to said title, a new paragraph to read as follows:

9 "(41.1) 'Marine fish' means all marine finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms
10 of marine animal and plant life other than marine mammals, sea turtles, and birds."

11 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

12 Said title is further amended by striking the word "and" at the end of paragraph (5) of
13 subsection (b) Code Section 27-5-5, relating to wild animals for which license or permit
14 required; by striking the period at the end of paragraph (6) of such subsection and inserting
15 in lieu thereof the symbol and word "; and"; and by inserting at the end of such subsection
16 a new paragraph to read as follows:

17 "(7) All exotic marine fish which are not held in aquaria. As used in this paragraph, the
18 term 'aquaria' means containers for holding fish for display or exhibition from which no
19 water is discharged except during periodic cleaning, and which discharged water is
20 passed through a filtering system capable of removing all marine fish, marine fish eggs,
21 and pathogens and is disposed of only in a septic tank permitted by a county or in a
22 waste-water treatment system permitted by the Environmental Protection Division of the
23 department. For purposes of this paragraph, exotic marine fish are all marine fish species
24 not native to Georgia. The department may issue emergency orders to protect the state's

1 natural resources from injury or impacts arising out of the possession, transportation, or
2 release of an exotic marine fish species.”

3 **SECTION 3.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.