

House Joint Resolution 2 - Introduced

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION _____
BY REICHERT

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution designating the channel catfish as the
2 official state fish for the State of Iowa.
3 WHEREAS, the channel catfish (*ictalurus punctatus*) is a native
4 fish to Iowa's prairie streams and rivers inhabiting all 99
5 counties, and is one of the most abundant fish in Iowa lakes,
6 streams, and rivers; and
7 WHEREAS, the channel catfish's appearance is easily
8 recognizable by its slender scaleless body, deeply forked tail,
9 fleshy whiskers, and sharp spines; and
10 WHEREAS, the channel catfish can be caught with a wide variety
11 of tackle, most of which is inexpensive and available to all
12 anglers; and
13 WHEREAS, the channel catfish is excellent table fare, with
14 Iowa anglers reporting that they eat catfish more often than any
15 other sport fish; and
16 WHEREAS, more Iowans participate in sport fishing than any
17 other outdoor recreational sport with nearly 620,000 anglers
18 spending approximately \$365 million annually and generating \$1.2
19 billion in economic activity; and
20 WHEREAS, the channel catfish is the most preferred fish among
21 Iowa anglers, reaching trophy size above 30 pounds and providing
22 pole-bending action, with over four million caught annually; and
23 WHEREAS, the channel catfish is an important fish to
24 Mississippi river commercial fishers with nearly 650,000 pounds
1 of channel catfish marketed each year from the river; NOW
2 THEREFORE,
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 1819HH 83
5 av/rj/5

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1 1 Section 1. STATE FISH DESIGNATED. The channel catfish
1 2 (*ictalurus punctatus*) is designated and shall be officially
1 3 known as the state fish of Iowa.
1 4 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS. The director of the
1 5 department of cultural affairs shall obtain appropriate
1 6 pictures and other representations of the channel catfish and
1 7 shall display the pictures and representations in an
1 8 appropriate place in the state historical museum.
1 9 Sec. 3. OFFICIAL REGISTER. The editor of the Iowa
1 10 official register shall include an appropriate picture and
1 11 commentary of the channel catfish in the Iowa official
1 12 register, along with the pictures of the state rock, state
1 13 flower, state bird, and state tree.
1 14 EXPLANATION
1 15 This joint resolution designates the channel catfish as the
1 16 official state fish of Iowa. The director of the department
1 17 of cultural affairs shall obtain pictures and other
1 18 appropriate representations of the state fish and display the
1 19 pictures and information in the state historical museum. The
1 20 editor of the Iowa official register shall include a picture
1 21 of the state fish along with pictures of the state rock, state
1 22 flower, state bird, and state tree.
1 23 LSB 1819HH 83
1 24 av/rj/5