General Assembly

Committee Bill No. 5012

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **3538**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PRACTICE OF SHARK FINNING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Shark" means any species of the subclass Elasmobranchii, but does not include any species in the order Batoidea or any smooth-hound; and (2) "shark fin" means a raw, dried or otherwise processed fin or tail that is separated from the body of a shark.

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, no person shall possess, sell, offer for sale, trade or distribute a shark fin.

(c) The prohibition contained in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to any person who holds a license or permit to take or land sharks when separating a fin or tail from a lawfully landed shark during the ordinary course of preparing the body of the shark for consumption, sale, trade or distribution, provided such fin or tail that is separated from the shark shall be immediately destroyed unless it is used by such person for the purpose of personal consumption or taxidermy.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section,

the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may issue a permit for the possession of shark fins for scientific research or educational purposes.

(e) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall have committed an infraction and may pay the fine, by mail, or plead not guilty in accordance with the provisions of section 51-164n of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*October 1, 2025*	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*