SECTION 1. Section 20-1-26 of the General Laws in Chapter 20-1 entitled "General Provisions" is hereby amended to read as follows:


(a) No person shall import, transport, disperse, distribute, introduce, sell, purchase, or possess in the state any species of non-native (exotic) freshwater invasive aquatic plants, as defined by the director. The director shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the prohibition and its applicability. The prohibition and its enforcement shall not become effective until the rules and regulations governing the prohibition and its applicability take effect.

(b) Violations of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars ($500).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

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RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

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1 This act would prohibit the importation, transportation, disbursement, distribution, sale, purchase, or possession of any species of non-native (exotic) invasive plants.

2 This act would take effect upon passage.