A bill to be entitled
An act relating to shark fins; amending s. 379.2426,
F.S.; prohibiting the import and export of shark fins;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 379.2426, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

379.2426 Regulation Possession of separated shark fins on
the water prohibited; penalties.—
(1) As used in this section, the term:
(a) “Land” means the physical act of bringing a harvested
organism, or any part thereof, ashore.
(b) “Shark” means any species of the orders
Carcharhiniformes, Lamniformes, Hexanchiformes,
Orectolobiformes, Pristiophoriformes, Squaliformes,
Squatiniformes, or any part thereof.
(c) “Shark fin” means the detached fin of a shark,
including the caudal or tail fin, or any portion thereof.
(d) “Separated,” with respect to a shark fin, means not
naturally attached to the corresponding shark body through some
portion of uncut skin.
(2) A person may not possess in or on the waters of this
state a shark fin that has been separated from a shark or land a
separated shark fin in this state, unless:
(a) Such possession is authorized by commission rule; or
(b) Such fin has been lawfully obtained on land, prepared
by taxidermy, and is possessed for the purposes of display.
(3) The import to and export from this state of shark fins is prohibited.

(4) A person who violates this section is subject to the following penalties:

(a) For a first violation, a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. In addition, the commission shall assess an administrative fine of $4,500 and suspend all of the person’s license privileges under this chapter for 180 days.

(b) For a second violation, a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. In addition, the commission shall assess an administrative fine of $9,500 and suspend all of the person’s license privileges under this chapter for 365 days.

(c) For a third and any subsequent violation, a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. In addition, the commission shall assess an administrative fine of $9,500 and permanently revoke all of the person’s license privileges under this chapter.

While his or her license privileges are under suspension or revocation pursuant to this subsection, a person may not participate in the taking or harvesting, or attempt the taking or harvesting, of saltwater products from any vessel within the waters of the state; be aboard any vessel on which a commercial quantity of saltwater products is possessed through an activity requiring a license pursuant to this chapter; or engage in any other activity requiring a license, permit, or certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.
Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.