

WHEREAS, the Department of Tidewater Fisheries has supervisory power and control over natural resources of this State within the bounds of tidewaters; and

WHEREAS, development in the recent functioning of the Commission on Tidewater Fisheries are indicative of a probable weakness in the structure of the Commission as presently organized; and

WHEREAS, these developments of recent months have reached a stage which has undermined public confidence in the operations of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Tidewater Fisheries is the only agency dealing with the conservation of natural resources that is limited to a membership of three, and for which salaried remuneration is provided; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that a further study be made of the conservation of natural resources within the State of Maryland and with particular reference to the relationship of the Department of Tidewater Fisheries to the Board of Natural Resources; now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Governor be and he hereby is authorized and directed to appoint, on or before July 1, 1948, a Commission to be known as the Commission on Conservation of Natural Resources, said Commission to be composed of not to exceed nine residents and citizens of the State of Maryland; and be it further

*Resolved*, That said Commission on the Conservation of Natural Resources be and hereby is authorized and directed to make a study of the laws of this State relating to the conservation of natural resources with particular reference to the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, its powers, duties and obligations as they relate to the conservation program of the State, and to recommend such changes in the Commission on Tidewater Fisheries and its relationship to the Board of Natural Resources as may be necessary to make said department a more useful and efficient branch of the State government, and to submit said recommendations to the Governor on or before December 1, 1948; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Governor and Board of Public Works may and are hereby authorized and directed to make available to said Commission from the general emergency fund further appropriation for the fiscal year 1949 sufficient to pay secretarial, stenographic, mailing, telephone, investigation and related incidental expenses that may be incurred by the Commission in the performance of its functions and duties herein set forth.

Approved June 1, 1948.