

CHAPTER 588  
(House Bill 415)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, ~~Section~~ SECTIONS 263(B) AND 263(c) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Fish and Fisheries," subheading "Part 2. Tidal Waters," TO REPEAL SECTIONS 296 AND 297 THEREOF, AND TO REPEAL SECTIONS 299, 302, AND 304A THEREOF AND ENACT NEW SECTIONS 299, 302, AND 304A TO STAND IN THE PLACE OF THE SECTIONS REPEALED, relating generally to the elimination of certain yardage provisions in regard to hoop nets and gill nets in the State of Maryland TO ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM QUANTITY FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING GEAR LICENSES, TO ESTABLISH A FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SAID LICENSES: and relating generally to ~~the licensing of same~~ SAID LICENSES AND RESTRICTED PERMITS FOR USE OF GILL NETS BY RIPARIAN OWNERS.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That ~~Section~~ SECTIONS 263(B) AND 263(c) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Fish and Fisheries," subheading "Part 2. Tidal Waters," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, SECTIONS 299 AND 302 THEREOF ARE HEREBY REPEALED AND SECTIONS 299, 302, AND 304A THEREOF ARE HEREBY REPEALED AND NEW SECTIONS 299, 302, AND 304A ENACTED, TO STAND IN THE PLACE OF THE SECTIONS SO REPEALED, ALL to read as follows:

263.

(B) IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO TAKE OR CATCH OR ATTEMPT TO TAKE OR CATCH FINFISH ~~FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES~~ (EXCEPT EELS) IN THE TIDAL WATERS OF THIS STATE BY THE USE OF ANY NET OR OTHER DEVICE ~~EXCEPT HOOK AND LINE, DIP NET OPERATED BY HAND, FYKE OR HOOP NET LESS THAN 40 YARDS IN LENGTH, OR POUND NET WITH AN OVERALL LENGTH NOT IN EXCESS OF 40 YARDS, UNLESS HE IS THE HOLDER OF A LICENSE TO OPERATE THE SAME DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION OF TIDEWATER FISHERIES, AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED. NO PERSON MAY USE MORE THAN 5 OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED POUND NETS.~~ SPEARGUN, OR BOW AND ARROW AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS HE HAS IN POSSESSION A VALID COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

(c) It shall be unlawful for the ~~Commission of Tidewater Fisheries~~ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES to license the use of any net or other device for catching finfish for commercial purposes in the tidal waters of this State, except the following: ~~Pound net, haul seine, and fyke or hoop net, [more than 40 yards in length,] and gill net. [more than 100 yards in length.]~~ THOSE ENUMERATED IN SECTION 302 OF THIS ARTICLE.