

**CHAPTER 16**

**(Senate Bill 99)**

AN ACT concerning

**Natural Resources – Boating Accidents – Reports**

FOR the purpose of increasing the minimum damage amount before a boating accident is required to be reported to the Department of Natural Resources; and generally relating to boating accidents.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 8-724(b) and (c)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Natural Resources**

8-724.

(b) If an accident involves any vessel subject to this subtitle while on the waters of the State and results in the death, disappearance, or injury of any person or in property damage in excess of [200] \$500, or there is complete loss of the vessel, the operator or owner, if the operator cannot submit a report, shall file with the Department a full description of the accident, including any information the Department requires by regulation. If the accident caused the death or disappearance of any person or a person receives medical treatment beyond first aid, the report shall be made within 48 hours. Any other accident resulting in personal injury or property damage shall be reported within 10 days. This subsection does not apply to a vessel required to have a certificate of inspection under Chapter 1, Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations.

(c) If any vessel numbered in the State is involved in an accident on waters outside of the State, and the accident results in the death, disappearance, or injury of any person or in property damage exceeding [200] \$500, the operator or owner, within 30 days, shall file a complete report with the Department including any information the Department requires by regulation. This subsection does not exempt or excuse any operator or owner, if the operator cannot submit the report, from the requirements of any federal or other State law or rule or regulation having jurisdiction over the waters in which the accident occurs. Furthermore, any accident-reporting requirement in the federal or other State law or rule or regulation may not exonerate or excuse any failure of the operator or owner of a vessel numbered in the State to report the accident in the State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1994.