

CHAPTER 508

(House Bill 353)

AN ACT concerning

**Oysters - Nonnative and Native Species - Research ~~for Possible Cultivation~~
in Maryland Waters and Report**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to ~~study the potentiality and feasibility of cultivating the species of oyster Crassostrea ariakensis in Maryland waters~~ authorize a certain study of certain nonnative species of oyster; requiring the study to include a certain analysis and proceed in accordance with certain findings; authorizing, with prior approval of the Department under a certain circumstance, certain research and experimentation in Maryland waters with certain oysters; requiring the Department to ensure that certain biosecurity measures are followed in order to ensure that certain research with certain oysters does not result in de facto introduction of a nonnative species; requiring the Department to study the condition and viability of native oysters and certain measures to increase their health and survival rate; requiring the Department to seek certain funding and to develop a certain plan; requiring the Department to report to the Governor and certain legislative committees of the General Assembly by certain dates; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to ~~live, nonnative~~ certain research and certain reports concerning certain oyster species.

BY adding to

Article ~~Natural Resources~~

Section 4 ~~1010.3~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article ~~Natural Resources~~

Section 4 ~~11A-02(a)(2)~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

Article ~~Natural Resources~~

~~4-1010.3.~~

(A) (1) ~~THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SHALL, IN COOPERATION WITH BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC MARYLAND RESEARCH~~