

~~establishing the Task Force on Oyster Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to appoint the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to examine certain issues related to oysters in the Chesapeake Bay and to formulate a certain action plan; providing for reimbursement for the expenses of a member of the Task Force; providing that certain provisions of the Maryland Public Ethics Law do not apply under certain circumstances to certain regulated lobbyists who serve on the Task Force; providing for the staff of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; making certain technical corrections; making certain stylistic changes; altering a certain definition~~ establishing the Oyster Advisory Commission in the Department of Natural Resources; providing for the membership of the Commission; establishing the duties of the Commission; requiring the Commission to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to publish certain information with respect to areas closed to shellfish harvesting; requiring the Department to provide certain publications to certain persons under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from catching oysters for sale without providing certain certification to the Department; authorizing certain organizations to lease certain submerged land in Anne Arundel County for oyster restoration; authorizing certain holders of certain oyster bottom leases to renew the leases; requiring a certain holder of an oyster bottom lease to adhere to a certain plan and to plant a certain amount and density of oyster seed; prohibiting a certain holder of an oyster bottom lease from transferring or attempting to transfer a certain interest in submerged land; providing for reversion of a lease to the State if a certain transfer is made or attempted; establishing that certain penalties apply for unlawfully taking oysters in certain areas; repealing the penalty of license suspension for certain unlawful takings of oysters; requiring a certain amount of the oyster seed or spat produced at a certain laboratory to be made available to certain leaseholders for purchase; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations establishing a certain administrative process for license suspension or revocation for unlawfully taking oysters; providing for the effective dates of this Act; and generally relating to oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section ~~4-11A-05(a)(1), (b), and (f)(1) and (2), 4-11A-07, 4-11A-11, 4-11A-12(a), 4-11A-13(a), (b), and (c)(1), 4-204(c), 4-701(e)(2), 4-11A-05(a)(2), and 4-1201(f)~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to