

CHAPTER 341.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Sections 52 and 54 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Oysters," and to add three new sections to the said Article to be known as Sections 8A, 55A and 55B, to follow Sections 8 and 55 respectively.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*—"Oysters." *land*, That Sections 52 and 54 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland be and the same are hereby repealed and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

52. It shall not be lawful for any citizen of Maryland or Virginia to take or catch oysters with a scoop, scrape or dredge or any such instrument in the waters of the Potomac river between the 15th day of March and 15 day of October of each year; it shall not be lawful for any citizen of either State to take oysters with tongs from the waters of the Potomac river between April 25 and October 1 of each year, and it shall not be lawful for any person to have in possession any oysters in the waters of the Potomac river between the 25th day of April and the 1st day of October of each year; every person found guilty of violating the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than two hundred and fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, and the vessel by which oysters are illegally taken or which receives oysters so illegally taken or which has oysters aboard within the limits of said river within the time specified, shall be held as security for the payment of the fine hereinbefore mentioned, and be also subject to a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred and fifty dollars; and in the event of such fines not being paid within a period of twenty days then such vessel shall be forfeited and sold; the surplus, after payment of fines and costs, to be paid to the owner of the boat; one-half of the fines to go to the informer and one-half to the State.

Restricting citizens of Maryland and Virginia from taking oysters at certain seasons.

Fines.

54. All offenses committed against the provisions of Sections 51, 52 and 53 by persons not citizens and residents as aforesaid of either State, may be punished by any of the justices of the peace or courts of either State having criminal jurisdiction. All offenses committed by citizens of either State shall be punished by such justice of the peace or court having criminal jurisdiction where the trial of such offenses shall be most convenient; the authorities of either State have the right to examine into the right of any person taking oysters in the Potomac

Offenses punishable by authorities of either State.