

the value of the land so leased; provided, however, that no land shall be leased at a less price than one dollar (\$1.00) per acre. If any part of the rent reserved under such leases shall remain unpaid for more than sixty days after the same becomes due, such lease or leases may at the option of said Department be declared void, and in that event the land shall revert to the State and may be leased again in accordance with the provisions of this section. The said Department may, at the request of any lessee, if it shall appear equitable so to do, upon cause shown in writing, cancel his lease as to the whole or a part of the lands leased. At the expiration of any lease now in force, there shall be allowed an additional period of 3 years to all such lessees and at the expiration of the said 3-year additional period, the leased bottoms shall revert to public use and anyone desiring to lease the same shall make application in the manner now prescribed by law; provided, however, that the application of lessee shall be considered as having prior right and shall be given first consideration in making such leases. Protests against the leasing of such bottoms after the 3-year additional period shall be filed in the regular way, as now provided by law.¹

An. Code, 1924, sec. 129. 1912, sec. 113. 1906, ch. 711, sec. 111. 1927, ch. 604.

129. It shall be lawful at any time after the closed season for taking oysters, to take oysters from such natural beds or bars in Chesapeake Bay as the Commission may mark out for that purpose, and at such time as the Commission may designate, but not to exceed one month in any one year and under such regulations as said Commission may from time to time prescribe; and, provided, however, that said oysters may be sold only for the purposes now permitted under the existing laws of Maryland, during the season of the year above mentioned; and in addition thereto, to persons engaged in the industry of planting and cultivating oysters within the area designated by this sub-title, the same to be delivered only upon lands which may have been leased under the provisions of this sub-title for said purposes of planting or cultivation.²

1931, ch. 432, sec. 154A.

154A. On and after June 1, 1931, all the waters of Worcester County shall be subject to the provisions of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland relating to oysters, the same as the waters of Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, except the provisions of the following sections of said Article, viz: 98, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 118, 120, 121, 126, 128, 131, 153 and 154; and except such changes and modifications in the Oyster Culture Laws as provided in this sub-title.

¹ Sec. 2 of ch. 610 of acts of 1927 repealed all laws inconsistent therewith to extent of such inconsistency.

² Sec. 2 of ch. 604 of acts of 1927 repealed all laws inconsistent therewith to extent of such inconsistency.