

CHAPTER 114.

AN ACT to better regulate the time and manner of taking and catching fish in the waters of Chester River and its tributaries lying within the counties of Kent and Queen Anne, in this State.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to take, capture or destroy fish in the waters of Chester River or its tributaries in Kent and Queen Anne counties, by seines, drag-nets, set-nets, fish-baskets, fish-pots, weirs, pound-nets, fykes or any other means or contrivance whatsoever, which is now known or used in the capturing or destroying fish, or which may hereafter be invented for that purpose, from the tenth day of May to the first day of September, except with hook and line; provided, however, that seines or nets may be used for the taking of taylor and mackerel fish, provided the meshes of such nets or seines are in the bar not less than one and seven-eighth inches, or in the mesh less than three and three-quarter inches.

Unlawful to capture fish.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That it shall not be lawful for any person or persons who use stakes or poles in setting nets of whatever class or description, in the waters mentioned in the first section of this act, to leave such stakes or poles in the waters where they were used, but shall remove, or have removed, such stakes or poles from the waters where they were used, on or before the twentieth day of May in each year, nor shall they again be put down in said waters prior to the twentieth day of September following.

Unlawful to leave stakes in water.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That for any person or persons, in said waters, in the first section of this act, to empty their seines upon the beach or shore at any time whilst engaged in fishing, so as to leave the smaller fish to perish, but to empty the same in water of sufficient depth to enable the smaller fish to return to the waters for growth and maturation, and any person or persons using seines, pound-nets, fish-baskets, fykes, traps or nets of any class or description that catch the fish alive, shall immediately

Not to empty seines on the shore.