

CHAPTER 602.

AN ACT to repeal sections fourteen, twenty, twenty-one and forty-one, of article seventy-two, of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Oysters," and to re-enact the same with amendments, and to add an additional section to said article to follow section twenty to be known as "Section twenty A."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That sections fourteen, twenty, twenty-one and forty-one, of article seventy-two, of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Oysters," be and the same are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, and that an additional section to said article is hereby added to come in after section twenty, to be known as "Section (20) twenty A," so as to read as follows:

SEC. 14. Any resident of this State desiring to use any canoe or other boat in catching or taking oysters, with rakes or tongs, for sale in any of the waters of this State, shall first obtain by application to the clerk of the circuit court for the county wherein he may reside, a license therefor, and such license shall have effect from the first day of September in the year in which it may have been obtained, to the twentieth day of April, inclusive, next succeeding; provided, that such license shall not authorize the use of said canoe or boat in taking or catching oysters in any creek, cove, river, inlet, bay or sound within the limits of any county other than that wherein the license shall have been granted, and that the boundaries of the counties bordering on navigable waters shall be strictly construed so as not to permit the residents of either county to take or catch oysters beyond the middle of the dividing channel; provided, that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent the citizens of Queen Anne's and Kent counties from using the waters of Chester river in common, or the citizens of Dorchester and Wicomico counties from using the waters of Nanticoke river in common, or the citizens of Queen Anne's and Talbot counties from using the waters of Wye river and the mouth thereof in common, or the citizens of Dorchester and Talbot counties from using the waters of the Choptank river in common, but the provisions of this section so far as it relates to a license taking effect on the first day of September, shall not apply to the Little Choptank river in Dorchester county, in which river a license shall not take effect before the fifteenth day of September, and the clerk of the circuit court for Dorchester county shall so state on every license issued by him to take oysters with rakes or tongs in Dorchester county.

SEC. 20. That all oysters taken from any of the waters of this State, (either with scoops, dredges or any similar instrument, or by tongs or rakes,) shall be culled upon their natural bed or bar