

CHAPTER 540

(House Bill 127)

AN ACT concerning

**Tidal Fish License – Exemption from Waiting Period**

FOR the purpose of exempting from certain requirements for a new tidal fish license certain persons who ~~have held a tidal fish license in the State for a certain number of years and certain persons who~~ apply for a new tidal fish license within a certain time of completion of active military service; allowing the Department of Natural Resources to issue a certain tidal fish license for a certain period of time; requiring the Department to verify to the extent possible certain information; specifying that a person may only be given a certain exemption one time; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to tidal fish licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 4-703

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Natural Resources**

4-703.

(a) (1) This section applies to any person who after September 1, 1988 applies for a new tidal fish license under § 4-701 of this subtitle to catch crabs with more than 50 crab pots, finfish, oysters, or clams.

(2) This section does not apply to any person who:

(i) Applies to renew a tidal fish license, including a license on inactive status that was valid on September 1, 1988;

(ii) Qualifies under § 4-705 of this subtitle to renew a tidal fish license within 1 year of completion of active military service; [or]

(iii) Has successfully completed a 2-year course of study in commercial fisheries which includes instruction on fisheries conservation and regulation and is offered in a vocational-technical program approved by the State Board of Education, provided the person was enrolled in the course on or before July 1, 1989;

OR

(IV) ~~FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS IN THE AGGREGATE, HAS OBTAINED AN ANNUAL TIDAL FISH LICENSE, OR~~