

Chapter 497.

AN ACT to provide for the destruction of eels
in the State of Maryland.

WHEREAS it is a well known fact among all fishermen and scientists that eels are very destructive to fish spawn and young fish in the fresh waters of this state, to which the mother fish migrates for the purpose of depositing said spawn; and whereas the State of Maryland, by the establishment of a fish commission, has encouraged the propagating of all food fish; and whereas the propagating of fish and the increase of the supply thereof can be encouraged as much by destroying the enemies of said fish as by hatching the same; and whereas it is believed that the eels destroy many more young fish of the food kind than are actually hatched and propagated by the fish commissioners of the state; therefore,

Preamble.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the fish commissioners of the state be and they are hereby directed and required, together with such persons as may be in their employment, to use all means in their power for the destruction of eels; it shall be their duty, while engaged in the hatching and propagating of young fish, and also at such other times as they may not actually be engaged in the hatching and propagating of young fish as aforesaid, also to construct, build, erect, plant, keep, alter and maintain eel pots, and all such other devices as they may from time to time deem advisable and practicable for the catching and destruction of eels under the provisions of this act; and the said fish commissioners are hereby directed and required to expend and use one-fourth of the money appropriated by the state, for the use of said fish commissioners, under the laws of this state in the constructing, building, erecting, planting, keeping and maintaining pots and such other devices as they may deem advisable and practicable for the catching and destroying of eels as aforesaid, and in carrying out the provisions of this act, in addition to other moneys hereinafter directed to be used for said purposes. The amount appropri-

Directed to
destroy.Required to
expend.