

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That said Board shall report to the Legislature at its next session, and from that time thereafter as said Board may deem proper, an account of its transactions and its advice and recommendations as required by Section 1 of the Act of 1896, Chapter 264.

Approved April 26, 1927.

CHAPTER 610.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 116 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Oysters," sub-title "Oyster Culture."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 116 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title, "Oysters," sub-title, "Oyster Culture," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, to read as follows:

SEC. 116. After the survey or resurvey provided for herein shall have been completed, it shall be the duty of the Conservation Department to lease, in the name of the State of Maryland, tracts or parcels of land beneath the waters of this State, whether within the limits of the Counties or elsewhere, in the area to be opened for oyster culture, according to the provisions of this sub-title; provided, that no tract so leased, if situated within the territorial limits of any County in this State, shall contain less than one acre of land, and if situated in any other place, no tract so leased shall contain less than five acres. It shall be the duty of said Department to require that the tracts so leased shall be as nearly rectangular as is convenient. It shall be the duty of the said Department to demand from each lessee payment of the rent each year in advance. No person shall be permitted, by lease, assignment or in any other manner, to acquire a greater amount of land than thirty acres situated within the territorial limits of any of the Counties, or five hundred acres in any other place; provided, however, that an individual may acquire a tract not exceeding one hundred acres of land beneath the waters of Tangier Sound. Leases of such lands shall be made only to residents of Maryland. The term of such leases shall be twenty years, and the annual rent therefor shall be such sum as in the judgment of the Conservation Department is a proper one and commensurate with the value of the land