

catching or taking of oysters; providing penalties for the violation of this section and giving officers of the State Fishery Patrol the right to make inspection for the purpose of ascertaining whether instruments so used are in conformity with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a new section be and the same is hereby added to Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Oysters," sub-title "Dredging," to follow Section 22 and to be known as Section 22-A, said new section to read as follows:

22-A. It shall be unlawful for any person to use or employ in catching or taking oysters in the waters of the State or to have in his possession any scoop, dredge, scrape or similar instrument having a tooth bar more than 60 inches in length measuring from the outside teeth. No "devil catcher," "devil diver" or similar device shall be had in possession or used on any dredge boat or vessel by any captain or any other person for the purpose of being attached to the dredge for steering same to the bottom.

Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined the sum of \$50.00 and in addition thereto such scoop, dredge, scrape or similar instrument shall be confiscated. Upon second offense, in addition to the above penalties, any license which may have been issued under the provisions of Section 23, of this Article, to the person so convicted shall be revoked for the remainder of the season for which said license was issued.

All Deputy Commanders and Inspectors of the State Fishery Patrol are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to make an inspection of all boats and vessels engaged in the catching of oysters, for the purpose of ascertaining whether such boat or vessel is equipped or has on board any scoop, dredge, scrape or similar instrument which does not comply with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws or parts of laws of the State of Maryland, general or local, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act be and the same are hereby repealed, to the extent of such inconsistency.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1st, 1927.

Approved April 5, 1927.