

CHAPTER 476.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Sections 72, 73, 74 and 75 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Oysters," sub-title "Potomac," said sections relating to taking of marketable oysters with ordinary patent tongs from certain places in the Potomac River and changing the season for taking and the size of marketable oysters to conform with similar legislation enacted by the State of Virginia.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 72, 73, 74 and 75 of Article 72 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Oysters," sub-title "Potomac," relating to taking of marketable oysters with ordinary patent tongs from certain places in the Potomac River, and changing the season for taking and the size of marketable oysters to conform with similar legislation enacted by the State of Virginia, be and are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, to read as follows:

72. It shall not be lawful for any citizen of Maryland or of Virginia to take or catch oysters with a scoop, scrape, dredge, or any such instrument in the waters of the Potomac River between the fifteenth day of March and the first day of November of each year; it shall not be lawful for any citizen of either state to take oysters with tongs from the waters of the Potomac River between the fifteenth day of April and the fifteenth day of September of each year, except as hereinafter provided in Section 74; it shall not be lawful for any person to have in possession any oysters taken from the waters of the Potomac River between the twentieth day of April and the fifteenth day of September of each year. Every person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, and the vessel, together with its equipment and cargo, used in violating any such provisions, shall be forfeited to the State.

73. All oysters taken from any natural rocks, beds or shoals within the Potomac River shall be culled on their natural rocks, beds or shoals as taken, and oysters whose shells measure less than three inches in length, measuring from hinge to mouth, whether attached to a marketable oyster or not, and all shells shall be included in said culling and placed on said rocks, beds or shoals; provided, that oysters once passed from the culler less than the prohibited size, and all shells shall be con-