

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 so leased; provided, however, that no land shall be leased at a less price than one dollar (\$1.00) per acre. If any part of the rent reserved under such leases shall remain unpaid for more than sixty days after the same becomes due, such lease or leases may at the option of said Department be declared void, and in that event the land shall revert to the State and may be leased again in accordance with the provisions of this section. The said Department may, at the request of any lessee, if it shall appear equitable so to do, upon cause shown in writing, cancel his lease as to the whole or a part of the lands leased. At the expiration of any lease now in force, there shall be allowed an additional period of 3 years to all such lessees and at the expiration of the said 3-year additional period, the lessee upon written request to said Conservation Department shall be granted a renewal of said lease, upon payment of re-survey and recording fees of five dollars (\$5.00) and two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50), respectively. If no such written request is made, by former lessee, the leased bottoms shall revert to public use and anyone desiring to lease the same shall make application in the manner now prescribed by law. Protests against the leasing of such bottoms after the 3-year additional period shall be filed in the regular way, as now provided by law.

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it further enacted*, That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this Act be and they are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1st, 1941.

Approved May 6, 1941.

CHAPTER 766.

(House Bill 314)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 109 of Article 39 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Fish and Fisheries", sub-title "Crabs", to