

repeal Section 108 of said Article, and to enact in lieu thereof a new section to be known as Section 108, and to follow immediately after Section 107 of said Article; amending the law relating to sponge crabs; authorizing the Conservation Commission to regulate or prohibit the catching, canning, packing, shipping or possession of the same, and prescribing penalties for violation of such regulation or prohibition.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 109 of Article 39 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Fish and Fisheries", sub-title "Crabs", be, and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

109. *Regulations on Certain Kinds and Sizes of Crabs.* It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch or have in his possession any hard crabs, measuring less than five inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike, or any peelers (which are hereby defined as having a soft shell fully developed under the hard shell, on which there is a pink line or rim on the edge of that part of the back fin next to the outer section of this fin) measuring less than three inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike, or any soft crabs measuring less than three or one-half inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike; nor shall any person take, catch or keep in floats or in his possession any fat crab, or any crab known as snot crab or green crab, or buckram crab (a crab that has a paper shell). The provisions of this section shall apply to all waters of the State of Maryland, and any person violating any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall upon conviction be fined as hereinafter provided, and in addition thereto the Deputy Commanders and Inspectors of the State Fishery Force are hereby authorized to confiscate and liberate into the waters of the State any fat crab, snot crab, green crab, buckram crab wherever found and held in violation of this section, and said officers are further authorized to confiscate any hard crabs, peelers or soft crabs of a size less than the measurements hereinbefore provided, wherever found, and shall dispose of any crabs so confiscated under the direction of the Conservation Commission to the best interests of the State.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Section 108 of Article 39 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Fish and Fisheries", sub-title "Crabs", be, and the same is hereby repealed, and a new section in lieu thereof is hereby enacted, to be known as Section 108, to follow immediately after Section 107 of said Article, and to read as follows: