

Game and Inland Fish Commission to make regulations concerning the open season for squirrels in Garrett County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 5 of Article 99 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement), title "Birds, Game and Inland Water Fish", sub-title "Commission", said section having been amended by Chapter 200 of the Acts of 1949, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

5. (Powers.) (a) Having a due regard for the distribution, abundance, economic value and breeding habits of wild birds, wild animals, and fish, in inland waters, the Commission is hereby vested with the necessary power and authority to determine when, to what extent, if at all, and by what means it is desirable to enlarge, extend, restrict or prohibit in any degree the provisions of law obtaining in this State for the hunting, taking, capture, killing, possession, sale, purchase, shipment, transportation, carriage or export of any wild bird, wild animal, or fish from inland waters, and may adopt regulations for such purpose. *Provided, however, that no such regulation shall be adopted which would have the effect of opening the squirrel season in Garrett County prior to October 10 in any year.*

(b) Upon written petition fifty residents of this State, at least 25 of whom shall hold valid Hunter's License or Angler's License and at least 25 of whom shall be bona fide farmers actually residing on a farm may propose regulations to the Commission for adoption. The full text of any regulations so proposed shall be published ten days before the same may be acted upon and shall name the time and place that the matters mentioned therein will be taken up, at which time any interested citizen may be heard. Such publications shall be made in a newspaper published in this State. If the Commission is satisfied that the proposed regulation, or any part thereof is advisable, such regulation, or any part thereof, may be adopted in the manner directed for proposing the same and shall name the date when it is to become effective. The Commission shall have full power and authority in case of fire hazard or similar emergency to adopt and publish in a newspaper in this State, regulations in connection therewith, which said regulations or regulation shall become effective immediately upon publication.

(c) It shall be a misdemeanor to violate such regulation adopted by the Commission or any part thereof, and any person convicted of such violation shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and may be sentenced to thirty (30) days in jail, either, or both,