

The Tidewater Fisheries Commission, and I, are of the opinion that interpretation of this Bill would be extremely difficult. In one section, it states "it shall be unlawful for the Commissioner of Tidewater Fisheries to license the use of any net or other device for catching fin fish for commercial purposes in the tidal waters of this State, except the following: pound net, haul seine, and fyke or hoop net more than 40 yards in length and gill net more than 150 yards in length."

In another section, the Bill states that the Commissioner shall grant licenses "provided that the Department of Tidewater Fisheries shall issue to any citizen licenses for stake gill nets or drift gill nets not more than 250 yards in length, upon receipt of an application and fee, for use in the waters of the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay."

It is readily noticeable that in one section, the Bill states that the Commissioner of Tidewater Fisheries cannot license nets unless they exceed a specified dimension and in another section, the Bill states that the Commissioner cannot license nets that exceed the same dimensions.

Therefore, I am returning this Bill without my approval.

Respectfully,

THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

TRMcK/o'c

May 7, 1951

Hon. George W. Della
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

Senate Bill No. 388, which would provide for buoys to be placed on certain lines dividing state and county waters is herewith returned without my approval.

The Tidewater Fisheries Commission and I agree that this Bill should not be enacted into law since it would be impractical and unfeasible to comply with its provisions. It would be impossible to clearly define the county waters since the buoys might be readily removed or destroyed. The imposed cost upon the Tidewater Fisheries Department would be well beyond the gains. The program would be expensive and the maintenance cost would be great.

Furthermore, there appears to be no real need for such a boundary marking system since the landmarks are well described and are known.