

ing, catching and marketing of soft shell clams from the waters of this State. AND PROHIBITING CERTAIN DREDGING IN THE WATERS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 651 (a) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition and 1954 Supplement), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; that a new sub-section to said Article, to be known as Section 663 (f) and to follow immediately after Section 663 (e) and a new section to be known as Section 663A and to follow immediately after Section 663 be and the same is hereby enacted and all to read as follows:*

651.

(a) *Devices for Taking or Catching Oysters and Clams—It shall be legal to take or catch oysters or clams in the waters of this State by rakes, tongs, patent tongs, dredges or hand scrapes, as defined in this sub-title, and by no other means, except that in addition to the foregoing means, soft shell clams may be caught or taken by hydraulic or mechanical dredges or rigs.*

663.

(f) *Applicability—The provisions of this Section 663 shall apply to hard shell clams ONLY (Venus mercenaria).*

663A.

#### SOFT SHELL CLAMS

(a) *How to Apply for a Hydraulic Dredge License—Any person wishing to take or catch soft shell clams (Mya arenaria) with any hydraulic or mechanical dredge or rig in the waters of any County of this State shall appear before the Department of Tidewater Fisheries and make application for a hydraulic or mechanical dredge or rig license. Every such applicant shall exhibit to said Department satisfactory evidence showing the name or number and size of the boat and the size of blade, water manifold and conveyor or elevator on the boat or rig to be used and make oath or affirmation that he is the bona fide owner of such boat; that there is no lien on said boat held by a non-resident of Maryland; that he has been a resident of the County in which he desires to take or catch such soft shell clams for one year prior to the making of such application; that the information he has furnished concerning the rig is true.*

(b) *Issuance of License—Upon the receipt of such application, and upon making such oath, the Department of Tidewater Fisheries shall issue a hydraulic or mechanical dredge license for the taking of soft shell clams for such boat or rig in the County of which the applicant is a resident and shall receive therefor \$50.00. Licenses issued hereunder shall be valid for twelve (12) months from July first to June thirtieth.*

(c) *Residence of Master and Crew—The master, captain or operator AND CREWS of such hydraulic or mechanical dredge or rig shall be a bona fide resident of the County in which such dredge or*