

(k) *Inspection Tax*—An inspection tax of ten cents (10¢) per bushel is hereby levied upon all soft shell clams caught within the limits of this State unloaded from boats or rigs at the place in Maryland where said soft shell clams are to be no further shipped in bulk in vessel, and said inspection tax shall be paid weekly to the Comptroller of the Treasury, or his agent, by the buyer. All monies received by the Comptroller of the Treasury, under the provisions of this sub-section, shall be credited to A FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE CLAM FUND, THE MONIES IN WHICH SHALL BE FOR THE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE STUDY AND RESEARCH OF CLAMMING IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND, AND ALL OTHER MONIES RECEIVED BY THE COMPTROLLER UNDER THE OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE CREDITED TO general funds, anything to the contrary in this Article notwithstanding.

(l) *Dealers To Be Licensed*—Any person desiring to be a dealer in the business of buying and selling, shipping or marketing soft shell clams taken from the waters of this State shall first obtain a license from the Department of Tidewater Fisheries. The applicant, if a bona fide resident of this State for one year, shall pay the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for issuing the same and if a non-resident, shall pay the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) therefor. Such license shall be valid only for the calendar year in which it shall be issued. Nothing in this sub-section shall be construed to prohibit any owner of a licensed boat or rig for the taking of soft shell clams or any other duly licensed person, from marketing his own catch without a dealer's license.

(m) *Revocation and Suspension of Licenses*—The Commission of Tidewater Fisheries is authorized to revoke, or suspend for periods of not less than ten (10) days, any hydraulic or mechanical dredge license, dealer's or other soft shell clam license, after due hearing upon not less than ten (10) days notice to the licensee, upon the following grounds: (1) The making of any materially false statement in the application for such license; (2) the conviction of the licensee or his agents of any violation of the provisions of this subtitle. It shall be unlawful for any licensee to take or catch soft shell clams with any device or rig and unlawful for any licensed dealer to buy, sell, ship, market or deal in soft shell clams during the period within which his license is suspended or revoked.

(n) *Confiscation*—It shall be the duty of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries and its Deputy Commanders and Inspectors to seize any and all soft shell clams that may be caught, sold, offered for sale, or held in possession in violation of any provisions of this section, to be disposed of at the discretion of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries to the best interests of the State.

(o) *Soft Shell Clam Productivity*—It shall be the duty of the Department of Tidewater Fisheries to take such measures as in its judgment shall seem best calculated to increase the productivity of any of the soft shell clam areas of the State.

(p) *Authority to Close Soft Shell Clam Beds*—The Commission of Tidewater Fisheries is authorized to close any portion of the natural soft shell clam beds in soft shell clam territory and to prohibit the taking or catching of soft shell clams thereon, whenever