

after Section 8 of the said Article and Code, authorizing and empowering the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries to adopt rules and regulations to prohibit the importation of shellfish into this State and to quarantine any area within the State populated by shellfish whenever there is evidence, in either case, of any biological threat to the shellfish populations of this State, to amend, alter, correct, supersede, repeal or rescind such rules and regulations and to establish penalties for the violation of such rules and regulations.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 8A be and it is hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Department of Tidewater Fisheries", to follow immediately after Section 8 of the said Article and Code, and to read as follows:

8A. Importation of Shellfish May Be Prohibited.—Whenever there is evidence or a reasonable suspicion of the presence of any destructive disease, deleterious genetic characteristic, or of any dangerous parasite, or other biological threat to the shellfish populations of the State of Maryland, the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries is authorized and empowered to adopt rules and regulations, and to amend, alter, correct, repeal or rescind such rules and regulations, as from time to time may be necessary and advisable, to prohibit the importation of any shellfish from any source outside of the State of Maryland, and to quarantine any area within the State of Maryland populated by shellfish infected or affected or suspected of being infected or affected by any of the conditions enumerated herein, and to establish by such rules and regulations the penalties for the violation of any one or more of such rules and regulations; provided, however, that no such penalty shall exceed a fine of \$1,000.00, or imprisonment for a period of one year, or both fine and imprisonment, together with the confiscation, in addition to such fine, imprisonment, or fine and imprisonment, of all gear and equipment, whether afloat or ashore, used in perpetrating the violation or violations, all in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1959.

Approved April 28, 1959.

CHAPTER 710

(House Bill 813)

AN ACT to create Rural Water Areas under the jurisdiction of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.