

ARTICLE VII. EFFECT ON EXISTING LAWS AND PRIOR COMPACT

Section 1. Existing Rights. The rights, including the privilege of erecting and maintaining wharves and other improvements, of the citizens of each State along the shores of the Potomac River adjoining their lands shall be neither diminished, restricted, enlarged, increased nor otherwise altered by this Compact, and the decisions of the courts construing that portion of Article VII of the Compact of 1785 relating to the rights of riparian owners shall be given full force and effect.

Section 2. Existing Laws. The laws of the State of Maryland relating to finfish, crabs, oysters, and clams in the Potomac River, as set forth in Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland and as in effect on December 1, 1958, shall be and remain applicable in the Potomac River except to the extent changed, amended, or modified by regulations of the Commission adopted in accordance with this Compact.

Section 3. Existing Licenses. The rights and privileges of licensees to take and catch finfish, crabs, oysters, clams, and other shellfish in the Potomac River, which are in effect at the time this Compact becomes effective, shall continue in force subsequent to the adoption of this Compact, subject to the power of the Commission, by regulation, to modify or abolish any class of licenses or the rights of any particular class of licensees. FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS AT WHICH TIME EVERY SUCH LICENSE AND EVERY SUCH RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE SHALL BE ABROGATED.

ARTICLE VIII. EFFECT OF RATIFICATION

These articles shall be laid before the Legislatures of Virginia and Maryland, and their approbation being obtained, shall be confirmed and ratified by a law of each state, never to be repealed or altered by either, without the consent of the other.

ARTICLE IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Compact, which takes the place of the Compact of 1785 between Maryland and Virginia, shall take effect at the expiration of 60 days after the completion of the last act legally necessary to make it operative, and thereupon the said Compact of 1785 shall no longer have any force or effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Commissioners, on the part of the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia, evidence their agreement to the provisions of this Compact by becoming parties signatory this, the twentieth day of December, in the year one thousand, nine hundred and fifty-eight, at Mount Vernon, in Virginia; and now witnesseth:

Commissioners on the
Part of Maryland

(s) CARLYLE BARTON
(s) WILLIAM J. MCWILLIAMS
(s) M. WILLIAM ADELSON
(s) STEPHEN R. COLLINS
(s) EDWARD S. DELAPLAINE

Commissioners on the
Part of Virginia

(s) MILLS E. GODWIN, JR.
(s) HOWARD H. ADAMS
(s) EDWARD E. LANE
(s) ROBERT BUTTON
(s) JOHN WARREN COOKE