

CHAPTER 605

(Senate Bill 441)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 700 (k), and to add Section 700 (m), to follow immediately after Section 700 (l) thereof, all to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", relating to the taking or catching of oysters by patent tongs in Anne Arundel County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 700 (k) be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and Section 700 (m) added to follow immediately after Section (l) thereof, all to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", and all to read as follows:

700.

(k) Patent tongs.—It shall be unlawful to use or employ any patent tongs to take or catch oysters in any of the following waters: Queen Anne's, Talbot, [Anne Arundel,] Dorchester and Kent counties, except on Swann Point Bar, and Lighthouse Lump, and except that on Hickory Thicket Bar the Department of Tidewater Fisheries may, in its discretion, open or close this bar for patent tonging; or in the Patuxent River above and north of a straight line joining Sotterly Wharf and St. Leonards Beacon; [or within one and one-half miles of Sandy Point, Hackett's Point, Thomas' Point, Holand's Point Bar and Three Sisters Bar;] or in the tributaries of the Potomac River in St. Mary's County.

(m) It shall be lawful to take or catch oysters by means of patent tongs in the waters of Anne Arundel County, as those waters are defined by the charts of the oyster survey of 1906-1912 or on any area which has been or shall hereafter be declared to be a natural oyster bar within the waters of Anne Arundel County by the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, when or if operated in waters of sixteen feet or more in depth. . THE DEPARTMENT OF TIDEWATER FISHERIES IS AUTHORIZED TO OPEN AND CLOSE THE AREAS IN SAID COUNTY IN WHICH PATENT TONGS MAY BE OPERATED. Licenses for such patent tonging shall be applied for and issued as provided in this section for tonging licenses, except that the fee for such license in Anne Arundel County shall be \$25, and the proceeds thereof shall be distributed as provided for in this section. Provided, however, that no person may obtain a tonging license in Anne Arundel County unless he has been a bona fide resident of the county for two years next preceding his application for said license.

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

Approved April 28, 1959.

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.