

## CHAPTER 292

(House Bill 270)

AN ACT to add new Sections 410J to 410P, inclusive, to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1965 Supplement), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Forests and Parks," to follow immediately after Section 410-I thereof, and to be under the new subheading "Public Recreation on Private Lands: Limitations on Liability," to provide for limitations on the liability to others of owners of land who make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes, to provide for exceptions, and to regulate the liability of property owners to users of their lands for recreational purposes.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Sections 410J to 410P, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1965 Supplement), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Forests and Parks," to follow immediately after Section 410-I thereof, and to be under the new subheading "Public Recreation on Private Lands: Limitations on Liability," and all to read as follows:

**410J.**

*The purpose of this subheading is to encourage owners of land to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting their liability toward persons entering thereon for such purposes.*

**410K.**

*As used in this subheading:*

(a) "Land" means land, roads, water, watercourses, private ways and buildings, structures, and machinery or equipment when attached to the realty.

(b) "Owner" means the possessor of a fee interest, a tenant, a lessee, occupant or person in control of the premises.

(c) "Recreational purpose" includes, ~~but is not limited to,~~ any of the following, or any combination thereof: hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking, pleasure driving, nature study, water skiing, winter sports, and viewing or enjoying historical, archaeological, scenic, or scientific sites.

(d) "Charge" means the ~~admission~~ price or fee asked (1) FOR SERVICES, ENTERTAINMENT, RECREATION OR PRODUCTS PERFORMED OR OFFERED FOR SALE ON THE LAND OR (2) in return for invitation or permission to enter or go upon the land.

**410L.**

*Except as specifically recognized by or provided in Section 410-O of this subheading, an owner of land owes no duty of care to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for recreational purposes, or to give any warning of a dangerous condition, use, struc-*