

CHAPTER 366

(House Bill 18)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 700(1) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Oysters and Clams," to change and make uniform the opening date of the season for tonging of oysters in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, except in Worcester County; and making certain provisions concerning the contingent effect of this Act upon the oyster season in the Potomac River.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 700 (1) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Oysters and Clams," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

700.

(1) It shall be unlawful to take or catch oysters by tongs or patent tongs except during the tonging season which shall begin on the first FIFTEENTH day of ~~September~~ *October* in each year and end on the ~~fifteenth day of April~~ THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF MARCH next succeeding, except in the following waters where the tonging season shall be as follows:

Patuxent River	[September 15] <i>October 1</i> to March 31, inclusive.
[Dorchester County, except Choptank River	October 1 to April 15, inclusive.
Choptank River	September 1 to April 15, inclusive.
Upper Potomac River above a line joining North Point and Cedar Point	October 1 to April 15, inclusive.
Lower Potomac River below a line joining North Point and Cedar Point	September 15 to April 15, inclusive.]
Tributaries of the Potomac	October 1 to April 1, inclusive.
[Somerset County Rhode River	September 15 to April 15, inclusive.
West River	October 15 to April 15, inclusive.
Herring Bay	October 15 to April 15, inclusive.
Upper Nanticoke River above a line joining Sandy Island and Rearing Point	December 1 to April 15, inclusive.
Wicomico County except Upper Nanticoke River	October 1 to April 15, inclusive.
Worcester County	September 15 to April 15, inclusive.] January 1 to December 31, inclusive.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall not become effective unless and until the provisions of this Act have been applied