

(2) The person to acquire title shall also place a notice in a paper of general circulation published in the county or city where the ~~boat~~ VESSEL is located, describing the vessel, its location, any identifying number, and shall state if the vessel is not claimed and removed within ~~15~~ 30 days after the publication date of the paper, he will apply for title to the vessel. IN HIS NAME.

(3) At the end of the ~~15~~ 30-day period the person ~~may~~ SHALL apply to the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs for a title to the vessel in his name on forms approved by the Department accompanied by the following affidavits:

(i) A statement that the vessel has been apparently abandoned for at least ~~2~~ 6 months.

(ii) Proof that the registered letter was mailed at least ~~15~~ 30 days before application or a detailed explanation of the unsuccessful steps taken to identify the owner and secure his address.

(iii) Proof that a notice was printed in a paper as required in subsection (c)(2).

(4) Upon receipt of the material required in subsection (c)(2) and upon payment of any fees and taxes due, the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs shall issue the applicant a title to the vessel.

(5) All costs incurred in receiving title to a vessel under this section shall be borne by the applicant.

(6) After receiving title if the applicant destroys or otherwise disposes of the vessel, he shall report the same to the Department within 15 days giving all details.

(7) The Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs may receive title to any vessel apparently abandoned on any of the waters of Maryland or on any land owned by this State or any of its political subdivisions by proceeding in the same manner as a property owner as set forth in this section.

(d) Any person who obtains or attempts to obtain title to a vessel under the provisions of this section through fraudulent means is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine of not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

(e) The Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs may establish such rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1969.

Approved May 21, 1969.

CHAPTER 794
(Senate Bill 486)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 1 (a), 8 (j) of Article 38A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965