

stated, this sum must come from the Commission's Construction Fund.

It is, therefore, urgently requested that House Bill 1323 which would reduce the Commission's Construction Fund by an additional \$1,468,529 be vetoed.

Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

/s/ DAVID H. FISHER,

Chairman-Director.

House Bill No. 1340—Oysters

AN ACT to add new Subsection 700(n) to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Oysters and Clams," to follow immediately after Subsection 700(m) thereof, to control the manner in which patent tongs may be used to take or catch oysters.

May 28, 1969.

Honorable Thomas Hunter Lowe
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1340 and am returning it to you.

This Bill makes it unlawful for any person to take oysters with patent tongs from a boat unless the boat is anchored with the anchor line attached to the bow. It also makes it unlawful to use patent tongs while the boat is being propelled by machinery. The Bill was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Matters at the request of the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs.

The purpose of this Bill was to prevent persons from using patent tongs as dredges. However, a great deal of concern has been expressed both to my office and to the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs, by members of the General Assembly and others, over whether the language of the Bill is broader than its purpose and may prohibit the proper use of patent tongs. Furthermore, the enactment of House Bill 1341, which was signed by me on April 23, 1969, renders House Bill 1340 largely unnecessary.

For these reasons, the Director of the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs, the sponsoring agency, has written to my office requesting that House Bill 1340 be vetoed. The attached letter from the Director is to be considered part of this message. I am complying with this request.

Sincerely,

/s/ MARVIN MANDEL,

Governor.