

goods or things, taken to the owner, or shall pay him the full value thereof, and shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not more than fifteen years, or in the house of correction or jail for not more than ten years, or be both fined and imprisoned in the discretion of the court. In Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County where the amount of money or the value of the thing taken does not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) the Municipal Court of Baltimore City and People's Court of Anne Arundel County shall have jurisdiction to try persons charged with violating this section, provided that persons so convicted in the Municipal Court or People's Court of Anne Arundel County shall not be sentenced to the penitentiary by [that] those courts.

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

Approved April 23, 1969.

CHAPTER 368

(House Bill 880)

AN ACT to add new Sections 200 through 205, inclusive, to Article 48 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Inspections," to follow immediately after Section 199 thereof, and to be under the new subheading "Johnsongrass Control," to declare the existence of Johnsongrass to be a public and common nuisance, to prohibit the contamination of uninfested land with Johnsongrass, to require landowners to prevent seed set on land infested with Johnsongrass; to institute programs for its control and eradication; to permit the State Board of Agriculture to enter into agreements with any county, subdivision, adjoining state, and agency of the federal government to effect a program of control and eradication TO DECLARE OTHER WEED SPECIES WHICH THREATEN OR ADVERSELY AFFECT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION; to accept and expend gifts and grants from any source for the purpose of control and eradication; and to provide for the prosecution of violations, and that violators shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and providing penalties therefor.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That new Sections 200 through 205 inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 48 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Inspections," to follow immediately after Section 199 thereof, and to be under the new subheading "Johnsongrass Control," and to read as follows:

200. *Johnsongrass Control*

The existence of growth of a species of grass, Sorghum halepense, commonly known as "Johnsongrass," is hereby declared to be a public and common nuisance.