

CHAPTER 615
(House Bill 1331)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 698(b) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Oysters and Clams," to remove an obsolete provision of the statute, to establish a new schedule of fees for the taking or catching of oysters and clams for commercial purposes, and to authorize the Fish and Wildlife Administration to regulate issuance of such licenses.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 698(b) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Oysters and Clams," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

698.

(b) No person shall take or catch oysters or clams for market in the waters of this State who has not been duly licensed as provided in **[this subtitle]** *the regulations of the Fish and Wildlife Administration.* No license shall be required under the provisions of this subtitle for any person to take or catch up to one bushel of oysters from the natural oyster bars of the State for his own use and consumption, and not for sale or marketing provided that such oysters may be taken only in such places and at such times as may be prescribed by regulations of the **[Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs]** *Fish and Wildlife Administration.* ~~Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding~~ **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE,** fees for issuance of licenses to take or catch oysters or clams for commercial purposes by means enumerated in Sections 698(a), 712, 712A, and 712B shall be as follows:

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| (1) <i>Shaft or hand tongs to take oysters</i> | \$25 FOR EACH PERSON TONGING OR EMPLOYED ON A TONG BOAT |
| (2) <i>Shaft or hand tongs, or rakes to take clams</i> | \$10 \$15 FOR EACH PERSON OPERATING TONGS OR RAKE OR EMPLOYED ON A TONG BOAT |
| (3) <i>Patent tongs to take oysters</i> | \$50 for each patent tong operated PERSON TONGING OR EMPLOYED ON A PATENT TONG BOAT |
| (4) <i>Patent tongs to take clams</i> | \$25 for each patent tong operated PERSON TONGING OR EMPLOYED ON A PATENT TONG BOAT |