

BY FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$500.00 NOR MORE THAN \$10,000.00.

29G.

(a) *The Maryland Oil Disaster ~~Research, Development~~ CONTAINMENT, CLEAN-UP and Contingency Fund is established, to be used by the Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of ~~research and development~~ of equipment, personnel and plans; and for contingency actions to respond to, contain, clean-up and remove from the land and waters of the State, discharges of oil, petroleum products and their by-products into, upon or adjacent to, the waters of the state; and to restore natural resources damaged by such discharges, ~~the~~ THE cost of containment, clean-up, removal and restoration shall be reimbursed the State by the person responsible for the discharge and this reimbursement shall be credited to the fund. The fund shall be limited to the sum of ~~\$2,000,000.00~~ \$500,000.00. To this sum shall be credited all license fees, penalties, and other charges related to this subtitle, and to this fund shall be charged any and all expenses of the Department of Natural Resources related to this subtitle. At the time that the balance in the fund reaches the limit, license fees shall be temporarily abated or adjusted so that the limit shall not be exceeded for the next succeeding year PURSUANT TO SECTION 29F(B).*

(b) *Moneys in the fund not needed currently to meet the obligations of the Department in the exercise of its responsibilities under this subtitle shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the State to the credit of the fund and may be invested as provided by statute. Interest received on the investment shall be credited to the Maryland Oil Disaster ~~Research, Development~~ CONTAINMENT, CLEAN-UP and Contingency Fund.*

(c) *The Secretary of Natural Resources shall determine the proper allocation of the monies credited to the Maryland Oil Disaster CONTAINMENT, CLEAN-UP AND Contingency Fund for the following purposes and no others:*

(1) *Administrative expenses, personnel expenses, and equipment costs of the Department related to the purposes of this subtitle.*

(2) *Prevention, control, containment, clean-up and removal of discharges into, upon or adjacent to the waters of the State of discharges of oil, petroleum products and their by-products, and the restoration of natural resources damaged by such discharges.*

(3) *~~Research and development~~ DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINMENT AND CLEAN-UP EQUIPMENT, PLANS AND PROCEDURES in accordance with the purposes of this section.*

(4) *Payment of costs of insurance by the State to extend or implement the benefits of the fund.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1972.*

Approved May 26, 1972.