

COUNTY OF THE NAMES OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SELECTED OR APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY IN THAT COUNTY.

(C) EXPENDITURES. - THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EXPEND ANY FUND APPROPRIATED IN THE BUDGET FOR OYSTER PROPAGATION FOR THE PLANTING OF OYSTER SHELLS, OTHER CULTCH, OR SEED OYSTERS ON NATURAL OYSTER BARS OR SEED AREAS, OR FOR THE PURCHASE OF NECESSARY EQUIPMENT.

(D) DEPARTMENT MAY CLOSE NATURAL OYSTER BARS. - THE DEPARTMENT MAY CLOSE WITHOUT HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING ANY NATURAL OYSTER BAR IN THE WATERS OF THE STATE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF OYSTERMEN.

REVISOR'S NOTE: Subsection (a) presently appears as Article 66C, section 707(e) of the Code.

Subsection (b) presently appears as Article 66C, section 707(g) of the Code. The first sentence of the present subsection is proposed for deletion because its substance presently appears in proposed subsection (c). New language has been added specifically requiring the first committee of oystermen to be comprised of five licensed tongers. By providing that the first committee is to offer advice on tonging areas and the second committee is to offer advice on dredging areas, the present statute appears to contemplate that the members of each committee have expertise in the particular area with which their respective committee deals. In fact, the first committee has always been comprised of licensed tongers.

The provision establishing a contingency procedure for making the initial appointments to the committee also is proposed for deletion because it is obsolete. The term "tongers and dredgers" used in reference to committees is proposed for deletion because licensed oystermen, who sit on the committees, by necessity must be either tongers or dredgers.

Subsection (c) is new language derived from the first sentence of Article 66C, section 707(g).