

CHAPTER 776

(House Bill 1222)

AN ACT concerning

Fish and Fisheries - Restrictions

FOR the purpose of establishing certain restrictions in drift net areas of the Chesapeake Bay during certain times of the year; and providing for certain exceptions.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 4-710(h)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1974 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 4-710(h) be and it is hereby added to Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1974 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-710.

(H) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH OR ATTEMPT TO CATCH FINFISH BY THE USE OF ANY STATIONARY FISHING GEAR, OR SET AN ANCHOR OR MOORING BUOY, OR IN ANY WAY OBSTRUCT THE NORMAL TAKING OF FINFISH BY DRIFT NET FROM DECEMBER 1 THROUGH APRIL 1.

THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO WATERS MORE THAN 50 FEET IN DEPTH IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY SOUTH OF THE PRESTON LANE MEMORIAL BRIDGE AND IS NOT APPLICABLE TO ANY CHESAPEAKE BAY TRIBUTARIES. THIS PROVISION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY DESIGNATED ANCHORAGE IN EXISTENCE ON JULY 1, 1975. THE DEPARTMENT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO PERMIT EXCEPTIONS TO THIS SECTION BY REGULATIONS WHEN IT CAN BE SHOWN THAT THE OBSTRUCTION WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH A USEABLE FISHING REACH.