

Approved May 17, 1977.

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CHAPTER 511

(House Bill 1041)

AN ACT concerning

Boating - Abandoning or Casting Adrift Vessels

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from wilfully abandoning or wilfully casting adrift any vessel upon the waters of the State; prescribing criminal penalties; ~~and~~ making the owner of the vessel liable to the State for the cost of its removal; and providing for exceptions.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 8-725.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 8-725.1 be and it is hereby added to Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

8-725.1.

(A) A PERSON MAY NOT WILFULLY ABANDON OR WILFULLY CAST ADRIFT ANY VESSEL UPON ANY WATERS OF THE STATE.

(B) (1) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR. UPON CONVICTION, THE PERSON IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING SIX MONTHS, OR BOTH.

(2) ANY PERSON FOUND GUILTY OF A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,000 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING ONE YEAR, OR BOTH.

(3) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS LIABLE TO THE STATE FOR THE COST OF REMOVAL OF THE VESSEL.

(4) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO A VESSEL WRECKED THROUGH AN ACT OF GOD OR NEGLIGENCE OF A THIRD PARTY.