

CHAPTER 581

(House Bill 212)

AN ACT concerning

Fishing - Gill Nets

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the use of gill nets during certain periods in certain waters of the State; ~~prohibiting the use of gill nets at all times in certain waters;~~ and prohibiting the use of gill certain nets of a certain size in certain waters.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources
Section 4-710(c) and 4-728(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1977 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-710.

(c) (1) A person may not fish with any net whose size of stretched mesh, allowing a reasonable tolerance for shrinkage, is less than the following: pound net, 1 1/2 inches; haul seine, ~~2-1/2~~ 1 1/2 inches; gill net, 2 1/2 inches; fyke or hoop net, ~~2-1/4~~ 1 1/2 inches.

(2) IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES, A PERSON MAY NOT SET OR FISH ANY GILL NET WHOSE SIZE OF STRETCHED MESH, ALLOWING A 1/4 INCH VARIABLE, IS MORE THAN 7 INCHES.

(3) This subsection does not apply to catching eels with a net.

4-728.

(c) (1) A person may not set an anchored gill net in the area of Chesapeake Bay bounded on the north by a line drawn from Turkey Point on the eastern shore to Sandy Point in Harford County, and on the south by a line drawn from the mouth of Fairlee Creek in Kent County to Robins Point in Harford County. This [subsection] PARAGRAPH does not apply to the numbered commercial fishing areas within the Aberdeen proving grounds as specified by the proving ground.

~~(2) A PERSON MAY NOT SET, FISH, OR HAVE WITHIN~~