

Chapter 203 of the Acts of the
General Assembly of 1979
Section 2

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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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

4-1013.

(e) All submerged land of the State not leased for cultivation of oysters nor designated as dredging territory by the provisions of this subtitle shall be reserved for tongers exclusively. The owner, captain, master or any crew member of any boat may not catch oysters by scoop, handscrape, or dredge, or attempt or conspire to catch oysters by scoop, handscrape, or dredge, from any submerged land of the State reserved for tongers exclusively or closed by any rule or regulation, or order of the Department. The taking of oysters by scoop, dredge or handscrape by hand may be authorized by the Secretary upon the recommendations of the appropriate county tongers committee, in areas reserved for tonging when areas which are otherwise designated for ~~handscraping, dredging, and seeping~~ TONGING for oysters are closed because of icing conditions FOR AT LEAST 7 CONSECUTIVE DAYS. HANDSCRAPING MAY BE AUTHORIZED ON A DAY FOR WORKING DAY BASIS ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WHEN TONGING IS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF ICE COVER, BUT NOT TO EXCEED 14 WORKING DAYS. THE SECRETARY MAY SPECIFY AREAS TO BE OPENED AND RESTRICTIONS ON GEAR. There shall be a limit of 10 bushels per man and no more than 30 bushels per boat. A person may not handscrape for oysters after 12 noon. However, this subsection does not apply to catching seed oysters under the surveillance and with the permission of the Department.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That chapter(s) of the Acts of the General Assembly be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Chapter 203 of the Acts of 1979

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act shall expire automatically on September 15, [1980] 1983 without any further action required by the General Assembly.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act ~~is shall take effect July 1, 1980. hereby--declared--to--be--an emergency--measure---and---necessary---for---the---immediate preservation-of-the-public-health-and-safety-and-having-been~~