SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1982.

Approved May 20, 1982.

CHAPTER 344

(House Bill 393)

AN ACT concerning

Fish and Fisheries - Hard-Shell Clams - Severance Tax

FOR the purpose of increasing the severance tax on hard-shell clams in order to provide funds for hard-shell clam replenishment programs; removing a mandatory requirement for weekly payment of taxes; and authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to promulgate regulations concerning tax remittance procedures; and limiting the use of the Fisheries Research and Development Fund.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources Section 4-209 and 4-1028 Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

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

Article - Natural Resources

4-209.

There is a Fisheries Research and Development Fund in the Department. Any money the State Comptroller receives under the provisions of this title from commercial licenses, permits, and service fees, taxes, and royalties paid to the State for oyster shells and clam shells removed from the bottom beneath the tidal waters of the State, or any source, together with any fine or forfeiture collected under § 4-1202 of this title, shall be credited to the Fisheries Research and Development Fund. SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED IN § 4-1028, [The] THE Fund shall be used for replenshing fisheries resources, related research, and to match federal funds available for research and development of fisheries resources.