

## Oyster Cultivation - Grants for Research

FOR the purpose of requiring authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to make certain grants for oyster cultivation research under certain conditions; ~~requiring the Governor to include certain amounts of money in the State budget annually to provide for the purposes of this Act,~~ providing for the qualifications of certain groups to receive the equal and matching grants under this Act; and generally relating to grants of State money for oyster cultivation research in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section 4-1108(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1983 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

## Preamble

WHEREAS, The Department of Natural Resources takes measures each year to increase the productivity or utility of certain natural oyster bars of the State by using different methods to cultivate oysters; and

WHEREAS, Other groups, including 4-H Clubs, have interests in and the legal authority to conduct experimental oyster farming and cultivation efforts in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, Research in advanced techniques of oyster cultivation have met with very good success in the west coast of the United States and in Japan; and

WHEREAS, There has been a lack of in-the-water research using these advanced techniques of oyster cultivation in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, To assist the Department in its efforts to increase the productivity of natural oyster bars of the State, and to experiment with different types of oyster culture, this Act intends to develop a program by which certain groups are given certain money to fund their research; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-1108.