

(F) IF THE OWNER OR SECURED PARTY FAILS TO CLAIM THE ABANDONED VESSEL WITHIN 3 WEEKS AFTER THE CERTIFIED MAIL NOTICE OR AFTER THE NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS GIVEN, THE DEPARTMENT MAY SELL THE VESSEL AT PUBLIC AUCTION, PROCEED TO RECEIVE TITLE TO THE VESSEL PURSUANT TO § 8-722 OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF THE VESSEL.

(G) IF THE ABANDONED VESSEL IS IN SUCH A CONDITION OF DISREPAIR THAT THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT REMOVE IT INTACT, THE DEPARTMENT MAY DISPOSE OF IT IN WHATEVER MANNER IS REASONABLE WITHOUT PROVIDING THE NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTIONS (C) THROUGH (E).

(H) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DELEGATE ITS AUTHORITY TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ABANDONED VESSELS UNDER THIS SECTION TO ANY COUNTY LOCAL JURISDICTION.

8-725.1.

(a) A person may not [wilfully] abandon [or wilfully cast adrift], AS DEFINED IN § 8-721, any vessel upon any waters of the State.

(B) THE LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER SHOWN ON THE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE ISSUED UNDER § 8-715 SHALL BE CONSIDERED THE PRIMA FACIE OWNER OF A VESSEL AT THE TIME IT WAS ABANDONED AND THE PERSON WHO ABANDONED IT.

[(b)] (C) (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.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1985.

Approved May 28, 1985.

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