

House Bill No. 520

AN ACT concerning

Oysters - Cull Limit - Divers

FOR the purpose of altering to a certain length the minimum size of the oysters that an oyster diver must cull and replace on certain oyster bars; altering the method of measuring the size of oysters; and generally relating to the catching of oysters by persons using diving apparatus.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~

~~Article --- Natural Resources
Section 4-1015(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources
Section 4-1015(a) and 4-1015.1(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

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

Article - Natural Resources

4-1015.

(a) A person who catches oysters from the waters of the State with any scoop, dredge, tong, rake, or any similar instrument shall cull the oysters on the natural bar from which they were caught, and return to the bar all shells, stones, gravel, and slag. Any oyster whose shell measures less than 3 ~~inches in length from hinge to bill~~ IN DISTANCE BETWEEN ITS LONGEST OR WIDEST POINTS, whether or not attached to a marketable oyster, shall be included in the culling and replaced on the bar from which caught. The Department by rule may permit the possession of marketable oysters to which nonmarketable oysters adhere so closely that it is impossible to remove them without destroying the smaller oyster. Oyster culling shall be completed before any oyster is thrown or deposited in the hold or bottom of any boat.

4-1015.1.