

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE SUBMERGED LAND IS A PRODUCTIVE NATURAL CLAM BAR, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT LEASE THE SUBMERGED LAND FOR PURPOSES OF OYSTER CULTIVATION.

(3) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING CRITERIA TO DENOTE NATURAL CLAM BARS AS HAVING SIGNIFICANT COMMERCIAL VALUE.

(4) BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT PROPOSES ANY REGULATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED REGULATION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1986.

Approved May 27, 1986.

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#### CHAPTER 754

(House Bill 892)

AN ACT concerning

#### Oyster Cultivation - Contesting Leases

FOR the purpose of altering the procedure under which a person may protest the issuance of an oyster lease for oyster cultivation; providing for a hearing in accordance with certain laws; and generally relating to protests against the issuance of leases to cultivate oysters in the waters of the State.

BY repealing

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 4-1109(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1985 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 4-1109(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1985 Supplement)

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