

CHAPTER 585

(Senate Bill 510)

AN ACT concerning

Severn River - Management Plan - Speed Limits for Vessels

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to develop in a certain manner a comprehensive management plan for the use of vessels on the Severn River; requiring the Department to implement the comprehensive management plan before a certain date; providing for the contents of the comprehensive management plan; prohibiting a person from operating a vessel on the Severn River in excess of a certain rate of speed during certain days and times of certain years; providing certain penalties for violating this Act; providing for the application and interpretation of this Act; requiring the Department to develop a certain informational program; generally relating to a comprehensive management plan for the use of vessels on the Severn River; and generally relating to the establishment of certain maximum speed limits for vessels on the Severn River during certain days and times of certain years; and making this Act an emergency measure.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 8-725.2 and 8-725.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1988 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Severn River has attained the designation of a scenic river because of its natural aesthetic value; and

WHEREAS, The increased presence of recreational boats on the Severn River has created a dangerously congested waterway; and

WHEREAS, The safety and quality of life on this waterway is being endangered by the inadequate control of sometimes conflicting recreational uses; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources to preserve the environment surrounding this scenic waterway and assure the safety of the boating public; and

WHEREAS, The Severn River is an appropriate demonstration area for the implementation of a management plan concerning the use of vessels; and