

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Senate Bill No. 509

AN ACT concerning

Vessels - Maximum Noise Levels

FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain persons from operating on the tidal waters of the State a vessel that exceeds certain noise levels; providing certain exceptions; authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to adopt certain regulations for certain purposes; prohibiting an owner or lessee of a vessel from allowing the operation of the vessel on tidal waters of the State in violation of this Act; providing certain penalties for violations of this Act; providing for the interpretation of this Act; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to maximum noise levels from vessels while operating on tidal waters of the State.

BY adding to

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

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

Article - Natural Resources

8-725.2.

(A) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO PERSONS WHO REGULARLY CATCH OR HARVEST SEAFOOD FOR SALE WHILE ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN THE CATCHING OR HARVESTING OF THE SEAFOOD.

{A} (8) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION {e} (D) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT OPERATE A VESSEL ON THE TIDAL WATERS OF THE STATE SO AS TO EXCEED A NOISE LEVEL OF 75DB(A), MEASURED FROM A POINT ON SHORE USING GENERALLY ACCEPTED TESTING PROCEDURES IMPOSED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT BASED ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT SOUND LEVEL MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE, SAE J1970.