

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

**Article - Natural Resources**

4-721.

(c) (1) A person may not fish a pound net in any part of the Gunpowder and Bush rivers lying in Harford County further than 1,500 feet from the shoreline of the Gunpowder River below Maxwell Point at mean low water tide and 750 feet from the shoreline of the Bush River at mean low water tide.

(2) (I) EXCEPT WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ABERDEEN PROVING GROUNDS, A PERSON MAY NOT SET A FYKE NET IN THE BUSH RIVER WITHIN 300 FEET OF ANOTHER FYKE NET OR 750 FEET OF A POUND NET, MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO EXISTING NETS OR LINE OF NETS FOR ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES.

(II) AN OWNER, TENANT, OR LESSEE OF THE RIPARIAN RIGHTS OF ANY ~~OF THE RIPARIAN RIGHTS~~ PROPERTY BORDERING THE BUSH RIVER MAY MAINTAIN A SINGLE FYKE NET THAT IS CLOSER THAN 300 FEET TO ANOTHER FYKE NET OR POUND NET SET IN FRONT OF AN ADJACENT PROPERTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1999.

May 12, 1999

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I today vetoed House Bill 8 - Commercial Law - Year 2000 Commerce Protection Act.

House Bill 8 provides various protections for businesses from liability for damages, personal injury, death and other losses caused by Year 2000 (Y2K) information technology failures. Specifically, the legislation establishes an affirmative defense for businesses that take certain good faith actions to identify and remedy Y2K compliance problems. While the impetus for this bill is understandable, I strongly believe that businesses should not escape responsibility for any personal injuries or death to Maryland citizens that are the result of Y2K technology failures. This is an issue of fundamental fairness and protecting families who have been harmed due to no fault of their own.

The task of ensuring that information technology systems are Year 2000 compliant has been a critical and ongoing endeavor for the State and local governments as well