

WHEREAS, This 1982, Virginia legislation has not become effective because similar legislation has not yet been enacted in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, On the advice of its Oyster Advisory Committee, a panel of citizens and fishing industry representatives, the Commission recently determined that the regulation of power dredging and the levy of repletion fees would be useful management tools, particularly during this time of critically low oyster harvests, and thus, Maryland's assent to this broader authorization is necessary; now, therefore,

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

Article - Natural Resources

4-307.

The Potomac River Fisheries Commission shall have the power to make, adopt, and publish such rules and regulations as may be necessary or desirable for authorizing and regulating the dredging of oysters [with handscrapes] in areas of the Potomac River within its geographical jurisdiction and may levy license AND REPLETION fees for same.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Legislative Services shall notify the appropriate officials of the Commonwealth of Virginia of the enactment of this Act; and that the Governor of the State of Maryland shall issue a proclamation declaring this Act valid and effective and shall forward a copy of the proclamation to the Executive Director of the Department of Legislative Services.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

Approved May 13, 2003.

CHAPTER 291

(House Bill 354)

AN ACT concerning

St. Mary's County - Code of Public Local Laws - Legalization

FOR the purpose of legalizing the 2002 edition of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County, being Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, published under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Mary's County; making provisions for the publication, sale, and distribution of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County; and generally relating to the legalization of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the 2002 edition of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's