

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 493 - Oysters - Nonnative and Native Species - Research and Report.

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to authorize the study of the Suminoe oyster (*Crassostrea ariakensis*) and other nonnative species. The study must include an analysis of the ecological benefits and risks associated with the introduction of both sterile and reproductively capable species. The study shall proceed in accordance with the findings of the National Academy of Sciences' review of the Suminoe oyster. The Department shall ensure that proper biosecurity measures, as defined by the protocols of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea are followed. DNR also must study the current viability of native oysters and measures to increase their health and survival rate.

House Bill 353, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 493.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**Senate Bill No. 493**

AN ACT concerning

**Oysters - Nonnative and Native Species - Research ~~for Possible Cultivation~~  
in Maryland Waters and Report**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to ~~study the potentiality and feasibility of cultivating the species of oyster *Crassostrea ariakensis* in Maryland waters~~ authorize a certain study of certain nonnative species of oyster; requiring the study to include a certain analysis and proceed in accordance with certain findings; authorizing, with prior approval of the Department under a certain circumstance, certain research and experimentation in Maryland waters with certain oysters; requiring the Department to ensure that certain biosecurity measures are followed in order to ensure that certain research with certain oysters does not result in de facto introduction of a nonnative species; requiring the Department to study the condition and viability of native oysters and certain measures to increase their health and survival rate; requiring the Department to seek certain funding and to develop a certain plan; requiring the Department to report to the Governor and certain legislative committees of the General Assembly by certain dates; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to live, nonnative certain research and certain reports concerning certain oyster species.

BY adding to

Article ~~Natural Resources~~

Section 4-1010.3