

Article - Natural Resources

10-607.

(a) (1) [This] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THIS section shall apply only to owners of riparian property in Maryland regardless of the residency of the owner.

(2) ~~Persons~~ Under this subtitle, persons owning riparian property in:

(I) MARYLAND OR Virginia [or West Virginia] that is adjacent to the TIDAL WATERS OF THE Potomac River may [not.] license ~~their~~ STATE shoreline ~~under this subtitle; AND~~

(II) MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, OR WEST VIRGINIA THAT IS ADJACENT TO THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER:

1. MAY LICENSE STATE ISLAND SHORELINE; AND

2. MAY NOT LICENSE STATE MAINLAND SHORELINE.

(b) Riparian landowners may license their riparian shoreline:

(1) To establish offshore stationary blinds or blind sites for hunting wild waterfowl; and

(2) To prevent other persons from licensing the riparian shoreline for the purpose of hunting wild waterfowl offshore.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002.

May 15, 2002

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 70 - District Court - Small Claims Actions.

House Bill 70 expands the exclusive original jurisdiction of the District Court and limits the concurrent original jurisdiction of the circuit courts by increasing the maximum amount in controversy for civil actions with the exclusive original jurisdiction of the District Court from \$2,500 to \$5,000.

Following the 2001 Session of the General Assembly, I vetoed identical legislation, House Bill 546. The reasons for my veto are restated below.

Currently, if a civil action involves an amount in controversy of not more than \$2,500, the District Court of Maryland has exclusive jurisdiction and the action is required to