

CHAPTER 476
(Senate Bill 675)

AN ACT concerning

Study of Nonnative Oyster Species - Findings of the National Academy of Sciences

FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that certain study of certain nonnative oyster species proceed in accordance with certain findings of the National Academy of Sciences; requiring that the study be consistent with certain National Academy of Sciences findings ~~be included in certain study to a certain extent~~; and generally relating to the study of nonnative oyster species.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002
Section 1(a)(1) and (d)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002
Section 1(a)(2)

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

Chapter 508 of the Acts of 2002

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, That:

(a) (1) The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize the study of the Suminoe oyster (*Crassostrea ariakensis*) and other nonnative species by both private and public research institutions with expertise in the field.

(2) The study required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall **INCLUDE**:

(i) ~~{Include an} AN~~ analysis of the ecological benefits and risks associated with the introduction of:

1. Reproductively capable nonnative oyster species in Maryland waters, for purposes of fisheries restoration or any other purpose; and

2. Sterile nonnative species in Maryland, for purposes of the development of aquaculture or any other purpose; and

(ii) ~~[Proceed in accordance with] TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE AS THE STUDY PROGRESSES, BE CONSISTENT WITH~~ the findings of the National Academy of Sciences review of the Suminoe oyster.