

CHAPTER 52

(Senate Bill 120)

AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Hard-Shell Clams – Harvest With Patent Tongs

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to adopt regulations governing the harvest of hard-shell clams in certain areas of Somerset County; regulating the use of patent tongs to harvest hard-shell clams in Somerset County under certain circumstances; and providing a certain season for the harvest of hard-shell clams with patent tongs in Somerset County.

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources

Section 4-1021.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

4-1021.1.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF PATENT TONGS TO HARVEST HARD-SHELL CLAMS ~~AND MAY DESIGNATE AREAS TO BE HARVESTED~~ IN AREAS OF SOMERSET COUNTY WHERE THE USE OF PATENT TONGS TO CATCH OYSTERS IS AUTHORIZED.

(B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY IN SOMERSET COUNTY.

(2) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH HARD-SHELL CLAMS WITH PATENT TONGS:

(I) BETWEEN SUNSET ON ANY DAY AND SUNRISE THE FOLLOWING DAY; OR

(II) ON SUNDAYS.

(2) (3) THE SEASON FOR CATCHING HARD-SHELL CLAMS WITH PATENT TONGS IS ~~SEPTEMBER 16 THROUGH MAY 31~~ THE SAME AS THE SEASON FOR CATCHING OYSTERS WITH PATENT TONGS AS PROVIDED IN § 4-1008 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR AS ALTERED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER § 4-2A-05 OF THIS TITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1991.