

(4) "Total purchase price" means the price of a vessel, including simultaneously purchased motors, spars, sails, and accessories exclusive of trailer, agreed on by the buyer and seller, with no deduction for trade-in or other nonmonetary consideration.

(5) (i) "Vessel" has the meaning indicated in § 8-701(p) of this subtitle.

(ii) "Vessel" does not include a ship's lifeboat, a vessel propelled only by sail, or vessel manually propelled.

~~(e) (1) Except as provided in § 8-715(d) of this subtitle and in subsections (c) and (f) of this section, and in addition to the fees prescribed in subsection (b) of this section, an excise tax is levied at the rate of [5%] 4% of the fair market value of the vessel on:~~

~~(i) the issuance of every original certificate of title required for a vessel under this subtitle;~~

~~(ii) the issuance of every subsequent certificate of title for the sale, resale, or transfer of the vessel;~~

~~(iii) the sale within the State of every other vessel; and~~

~~(iv) the possession within the State of a vessel purchased outside the State to be used principally in the State.~~

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Marine Industry Economic Development Task Force that was formed by the Marine Trades Association of Maryland, Inc., the Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Business and Economic Development in 1996 shall continue its deliberations and in addition to its original charges shall study the feasibility of and strategies for reducing the vessel excise tax by 1%, including funding by the Department of Natural Resources of a survey to be conducted by the University of Maryland Sea Grant College to generate data on the economic impact of this excise tax reduction, and to study the economic impact of the boat excise tax rate reduction and the trade in provision under § 8-716(a)(2)(i) of the Natural Resources Article as enacted by Section 1 of this Act. The Task Force shall report to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 1998, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Business and Economic Development in ~~conjunction~~ cooperation with the Marine Trades Association of Maryland, Inc. and other interested trade associations and tourism boards, shall may develop and implement a marketing and tourism plan to promote boating in Maryland.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Natural Resources shall decrease the amount of Waterway Improvement Fund revenues it spends on marine operations in the Natural Resources Police by \$750,000 per year until the amount spent for these purposes does not exceed the \$1,000,000 limit allowed by § 8-709 of the Natural Resources Article. The Governor shall include \$750,000 in general funds in the annual budget for the use of the Department to replace that amount of Waterway Improvement Fund revenues.