

SENATE BILL 461

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M2

1998 Regular Session
(8r1795)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Economic and Environmental Affairs/Environmental Matters --

Introduced by **St. Mary's County Senators**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **St. Mary's County - Crab Harvesting - Prohibition on Use of Bank Traps and**
3 **Channel Pounds**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting after a certain date the use of bank traps or channel
5 pounds by persons harvesting crabs in St. Mary's County; and directing the
6 Department of Natural Resources to conduct a certain study and provide a
7 certain report with recommendations to the General Assembly by a certain date.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Natural Resources
10 Section 4-815
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Natural Resources

2 4-815.

3 IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY, A PERSON MAY NOT HARVEST CRABS WITH A BANK TRAP
4 OR A CHANNEL POUND AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2000.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of
6 Natural Resources shall conduct a study of the impacts of bank traps and channel
7 pounds on aquatic animals, including crabs, fish, turtles, birds, and mammals. The
8 Department shall include in its study whether mitigating measures are available to
9 prevent adverse impacts upon aquatic animals. The study shall also consider the
10 effectiveness and enforcement of current bank trap regulations. The study shall
11 continue over a 1-year period, and upon completion of this report, and no later than
12 December 1, 1999, the Department shall report its findings to the House
13 Environmental Matters Committee and the Senate Economic Affairs Committee. In its
14 report, the Department shall make recommendations as to whether the prohibition on
15 the use of bank traps and channel pounds in St. Mary's County should be repealed by
16 the General Assembly.

17 SECTION ~~2.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
18 effect October 1, 1998.