

BY: Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 541

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 8, after “sanctuary” insert “; prohibiting a person from catching oysters in a certain oyster sanctuary”; and in line 10, after “oysters;” insert “requiring the Department to establish certain regulations establishing certain penalties; requiring the Department to submit a certain report by a certain date; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; providing for the delayed effective date of a certain provision of this Act;”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 15, after “(D)” insert “THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH ZONES BY REGULATIONS WITHIN THE FOLLOWING AREAS IN WHICH”; in line 17, strike “15” and substitute “30”; in line 25, strike “OR”; and in line 27, after “FRIDAY” insert “; OR

(III) IN ANY AREA CLOSED TO HYDRAULIC CLAM DREDGING UNDER § 4-1006.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, after line 7, insert:

“(III) THE SANCTUARY SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE POWER DREDGE SEASON.”

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 3, in line 8, strike “MAY” and substitute “SHALL”; in the same line, after “TO” insert “ESTABLISH A PROGRAM AT THE BEGINNING OF THE POWER DREDGE SEASON TO”; and in line 9, after “AT” insert “NO LESS THAN”.

AMENDMENT NO. 5

(Over)

On page 3, after line 12, insert:

“(5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS RESERVING AREAS ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS FOR RESTORATION AND HARVESTING PURPOSES.

(6) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING AN APPROPRIATE PENALTY TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST A PERSON CONVICTED OF TAKING OYSTERS FROM A SANCTUARY OR RESERVED AREA.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-1014.1.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE WATERS OF THE STATE THAT LIE CONTIGUOUS TO DORCHESTER COUNTY IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY.

(B) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH OYSTERS IN AN OYSTER SANCTUARY THAT WAS ESTABLISHED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 3, after line 12, insert:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Natural Resources shall conduct a study of the impact of power dredging and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, report to the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2004.”;

in line 13, strike “2.” and substitute “4.”; in the same line, after “That” insert “Sections 1 and 3 of”; and in line 14, after “June 1, 1999” insert “and shall remain effective for a period of 5 years. At the end of May 31, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Sections 1 and 3 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on the taking effect of the termination provision specified in Section 4 of this Act.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of

Section 5 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 1999”.