

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Arnick**  
Requested: July 29, 1999  
Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2000  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Natural Resources - Egg-Bearing Female Crabs - Prohibition Against**  
3                                   **Possession, Transport, and Sale**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the authorization for the Department of Natural  
5 Resources to adopt certain rules and regulations to permit or prohibit certain  
6 activities relating to the egg-bearing female crab and the female crab from  
7 which eggs have been removed; prohibiting a person from possessing,  
8 transporting, selling, or offering for sale the egg-bearing female crab known as  
9 the sponge crab or the female crab from which eggs have been removed; and  
10 generally relating to egg-bearing female crabs and the female crab from which  
11 eggs have been removed.

12 BY repealing  
13 Article - Natural Resources  
14 Section 4-810  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

17 BY adding to  
18 Article - Natural Resources  
19 Section 4-810  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

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**Article - Natural Resources**

2 [4-810.

3 The Department may adopt rules and regulations, after reasonable notice by  
4 publication, to permit or prohibit catching, canning, packing, shipping, or possessing  
5 the egg-bearing female crab or the female crab from which eggs have been removed.]

6 4-810.

7 A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS, TRANSPORT, SELL, OR OFFER FOR SALE THE  
8 EGG-BEARING FEMALE CRAB KNOWN AS THE SPONGE CRAB OR THE FEMALE CRAB  
9 FROM WHICH EGGS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 June 1, 2000.