

HOUSE BILL 1149

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M2

2002 Regular Session  
(2r2466)

**ENROLLED BILL**

-- Environmental Matters/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs --

Introduced by **Delegates Edwards and Crouse**

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

CHAPTER 268

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Angler's Licenses**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that an application for an angler's  
4 license contain the applicant's age and height; ~~altering certain angler's license~~  
5 ~~fees; altering certain angler's license fees~~; establishing a certain nonresident  
6 short-term license and establishing a certain fee for the license; ~~altering the~~  
7 ~~compensation an agent who sells angler's licenses may retain; altering the~~  
8 ~~compensation an agent who sells angler's licenses may retain~~; making certain  
9 technical and administrative changes; and generally relating to angler's  
10 licenses.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Natural Resources  
13 Section 4-604  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

3 **Article - Natural Resources**

4 4-604.

5 (a) This section provides a fund to pay the expense of protecting and managing  
6 game and freshwater fish and preventing unauthorized persons from fishing or  
7 attempting to fish for any game and freshwater fish without first procuring an  
8 angler's license.

9 (b) (1) In this section, "resident" means a person who resides in this State on  
10 the date he applies for a license.

11 (2) "Resident" includes a member of the armed forces of the United  
12 States who is on active duty and stationed officially in this State.

13 (c) Any person 16 years old or older shall secure an angler's license to fish in  
14 the nontidal waters of the State. An angler's license entitles the holder to fish in the  
15 nontidal waters of the State only during the open season.

16 (d) An angler's license is not required of the following:

17 (1) The owner or tenant of land bordering on nontidal water, his spouse  
18 and children, or the spouse of any child who resides on the land with the owner or  
19 tenant when he fishes in nontidal water adjoining his land;

20 (2) Any convalescent patient of a veterans' hospital hospitalized for a  
21 service connected disability who fishes in nontidal waters if the patient secures a  
22 permit issued by a special service officer of the American Red Cross under authority  
23 granted by the Department;

24 (3) Any group of disabled or convalescent patients organized and under  
25 the care and supervision of the American Red Cross, which upon the request of the  
26 American Red Cross, is authorized by the Department to fish for any recreational  
27 purpose in the nontidal waters;

28 (4) Any resident serving in the armed forces of the United States, while  
29 on leave in the State, during his leave period, if, while angling, he possesses a copy of  
30 his official leave orders;

31 (5) Any patient who is under treatment by a State-approved mental  
32 health facility, and any individual who attends or resides in a State-approved  
33 retardation facility;

34 (6) A caregiver, family member, or designee of a mental health care  
35 facility or private group home of a patient who is under treatment by a  
36 State-approved mental health facility, provided that:

1 (i) The administrator of the mental health care facility, or treating  
2 physician or psychologist provides the Department with a letter stating that the  
3 caregiver or family member is the primary caretaker of the patient; or

4 (ii) The individual accompanying the patient carries a copy of the  
5 letter described under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, or a professional license or  
6 certificate of a health care professional involved in the care of the patient;

7 (7) A person who fishes in nontidal waters of the State on free fishing  
8 days designated by the Secretary; or

9 (8) A person holding a current resident consolidated senior sport fishing  
10 license issued under § 4-216 of this title.

11 (e) A person may apply for an angler's license to any person designated by the  
12 Department. The application shall be on a form the Department prepares and  
13 supplies. The applicant shall fill out, sign and submit the application to the person  
14 designated to issue an angler's license. A person may apply by mail.

15 (f) (1) The application shall contain the applicant's name[, age, height,]  
16 and place of residence.

17 (2) A person may not use an assumed name or an address other than the  
18 person's legal place of residence or make any false statement to obtain an angler's  
19 license.

20 (3) Before an angler's license may be issued, the applicant for the license  
21 shall sign a statement which says:

22 "I understand that this license does not of itself permit me to fish on private  
23 property, and if I do so without permission of the owner I may be subject to a fine."

24 (g) (1) The following annual license fees shall apply:

25 (i) Resident ..... ~~[\$10]~~ ~~\$10.50~~ \$10.50

26 (ii) Subject to paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, short-term  
27 license valid for 5 consecutive days from date of issuance..... ~~[\$7]~~ ~~\$7.50~~ \$7.50

28 (iii) Resident and nonresident blind persons.....No fee

29 (iv) Complimentary license .....No fee

30 (2) For a nonresident:

31 (i) The fee for an annual angler's license is the greater of:

32 1. ~~[\$20]~~ ~~\$20.50~~ \$20.50; or

33 2. A fee equal to the fee charged a Maryland resident by the  
34 nonresident's home state for a similar license; and

1 (ii) The fee for a short-term license valid for 5 consecutive days  
2 from the date of issuance is the greater of:

3 1. ~~[\$7]~~ ~~\$7.50~~ \$7.50; or

4 2. A fee equal to the fee charged a Maryland resident by the  
5 nonresident's home state for a license that permits an equal number of days of fishing  
6 or the next higher number of days as permitted by the Maryland license.

7 (III) THE FEE FOR A SHORT-TERM LICENSE VALID FOR 3  
8 CONSECUTIVE DAYS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE IS THE GREATER OF:

9 1. \$5; OR

10 2. A FEE EQUAL TO THE FEE CHARGED A MARYLAND  
11 RESIDENT BY THE NONRESIDENT'S HOME STATE FOR A LICENSE THAT PERMITS AN  
12 EQUAL NUMBER OF DAYS OF FISHING OR THE NEXT HIGHER NUMBER OF DAYS AS  
13 PERMITTED BY THE MARYLAND LICENSE.

14 (3) (i) All fees collected by the Department under this section may  
15 only be used in accordance with § 4-208 of this title.

16 (ii) The Department shall publicly report annually the amounts  
17 collected and the expenditures under this section.

18 (h) A person designated to sell an angler's license shall issue the license and  
19 collect the fee prescribed in subsection (g) of this section. The Department shall  
20 furnish the licenses to the designated persons. An angler's license shall bear the  
21 Secretary's facsimile signature and the counter-signature of the issuing person. The  
22 person who issues the license shall [fill out] ENTER the name and address of the  
23 licensee [on a stub attached to the license blank and detach the stub]. The [stubs  
24 and] COLLECTED money[, collected every month,] shall be [mailed] TRANSMITTED  
25 to the Department [on the first day of the succeeding month] AS PRESCRIBED BY THE  
26 DEPARTMENT. As compensation, the agent shall retain ~~50 cents~~ \$1 \$1 for each  
27 license issued.

28 (i) Every angler's license shall expire on December 31 of each year following  
29 the date of issuance.

30 (j) The licensee shall sign his name in ink on the license at the time of  
31 purchase. The license may not be transferred to another person, nor used or  
32 presented by any person other than the person to whom it was issued.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 June 1, 2002.

