

HOUSE BILL 393

M2, E1

2lr0367
CF 2lr0501

By: **Delegates Luedtke, Arora, Barkley, Barve, Cardin, Carr, Clippinger, Cullison, Dumais, Feldman, Frick, Frush, Glenn, Gutierrez, Hixson, Huckler, A. Kelly, Lafferty, A. Miller, Mizeur, Niemann, Reznik, S. Robinson, Stein, Waldstreicher, Washington, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2012

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Shark or Elasmobranch Fins – Prohibition on**
3 **Possession or Distribution**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from possessing, selling, offering for sale,
5 trading, or distributing a shark or other elasmobranch fin; establishing certain
6 civil penalties for violations of this Act; requiring the Department of Natural
7 Resources to adopt regulations to implement this Act; defining a certain term;
8 and generally relating to a prohibition against the possession or distribution of
9 a shark or other elasmobranch fin.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Natural Resources

12 Section 4–747

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Natural Resources**

18 **4–747.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “SHARK FIN” MEANS THE RAW, DRIED, OR**
20 **OTHERWISE PROCESSED DETACHED FIN OR TAIL OF A SHARK OR OTHER**
21 **ELASMOBRANCH.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS, SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRADE, OR**
2 **DISTRIBUTE A SHARK FIN.**

3 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO THE**
4 **FOLLOWING CIVIL PENALTIES:**

5 **(1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, A FINE OF AT LEAST \$5,000 AND NOT**
6 **EXCEEDING \$15,000;**

7 **(2) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, A FINE OF AT LEAST \$15,000 AND**
8 **NOT EXCEEDING \$35,000; OR**

9 **(3) FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A FINE OF AT LEAST**
10 **\$35,000 AND NOT EXCEEDING \$50,000.**

11 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT**
12 **THIS SECTION.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 June 1, 2012.