

HOUSE BILL 1148

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4lr2596

By: **Delegates Jacobs, Norman, Otto, and Smigiel**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Recreational Striped Bass Fishery – Study on Reporting Requirements

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to conduct a study on the establishment of reporting requirements for the recreational striped bass fishery; requiring the study to examine certain issues relevant to the reporting requirements; requiring the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the study on the establishment of reporting requirements for the recreational striped bass fishery.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Department of Natural Resources shall conduct a study on the establishment of reporting requirements for the recreational striped bass fishery.

(b) The study shall examine:

(1) the benefits that reporting by the recreational striped bass fishery would have on the scientific and management capabilities of the Department with respect to the entire striped bass fishery;

(2) the type of information that would be most beneficial to the Department to collect, including catch numbers, poundage, the date and time of catch, the location of catch, and any other information that the Department considers to be necessary for its scientific and management duties and capabilities;

(3) the feasibility of implementing the reporting requirements, collecting and processing the reported data, and enforcing the reporting requirements;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(4) the feasibility and desirability of implementing electronic or automated reporting requirements; and

(5) any enforcement measures that would need to be implemented to support the reporting requirements.

(c) On or before December 1, 2014, the Department shall report its findings and recommendations with respect to reporting requirements for the recreational striped bass fishery to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.