

# SENATE BILL 143

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CF 9lr0447

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By: **Senators Young, Elfreth, Feldman, Guzzone, Kagan, Klausmeier, Kramer, Lam, Lee, Nathan-Pulliam, Smith, Washington, West, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2019

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cownose Ray Fishery Management Plan and Moratorium on Contests**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the date by which the Department of Natural Resources is  
4 required to prepare a certain fishery management plan for the cownose ray species,  
5 subject to available funding; extending the termination date for the prohibition on a  
6 person sponsoring, conducting, or participating in a certain cownose ray fishing  
7 contest in State waters; and generally relating to the cownose ray fishery.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Natural Resources

10 Section 4–215(b)(25)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017

15 Section 2 and 3

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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18 Section 2 and 3

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

20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Natural Resources**

22 4–215.

23 (b) The Department shall prepare fishery management plans for the following

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 species:

2 (25) Cownose ray.

3 **Chapter 398 of the Acts of 2017**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 31,  
5 [2018] **2020**, subject to funding made available to the Department of Natural Resources to  
6 implement Section 1 of this Act, the Department shall prepare the cownose ray fishery  
7 management plan required by § 4–215(b)(25) of the Natural Resources Article, as enacted  
8 by Section 1 of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

10 (a) In this section, “cownose ray fishing contest” means any competition,  
11 tournament or derby with the objective of catching or killing cownose rays for:

12 (1) prizes or other inducements; or

13 (2) entertainment purposes.

14 (b) Until July 1, [2019] **2021**, a person may not sponsor, conduct, or participate  
15 in a cownose ray fishing contest in State waters.

16 (c) A person who violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor,  
17 and on conviction is subject to the penalties provided in § 4–1201(a) and (b) of the Natural  
18 Resources Article.

19 **Chapter 399 of the Acts of 2017**

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21 [2018] **2020**, subject to funding made available to the Department of Natural Resources to  
22 implement Section 1 of this Act, the Department shall prepare the cownose ray fishery  
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31 in a cownose ray fishing contest in State waters.

1           (c)     A person who violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor,  
2 and on conviction is subject to the penalties provided in § 4–1201(a) and (b) of the Natural  
3 Resources Article.

4           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
5 1, 2019.