



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Charles Glass, Deputy Secretary

March 5, 2020

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan
Vice Chair, Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support with Amendments – Senate Bill 1025 - Task Force on Reciprocity of Fishing License Penalties

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Nature Resources offers its support for Senate Bill 1025 with the attached technical amendments and respectfully requests a favorable committee report.

The department is currently working with the Potomac River Fisheries Commission and the State of Virginia to take action to prohibit a person from participating in a fishery under the Commission's jurisdiction if the person's license to catch, sell, buy, process, transport, export, or otherwise deal in fish in Maryland has been suspended or revoked.

The passage of this legislation triggers provisions in the Potomac River Compact for a comprehensive review of the issue and any recommended compact language to be passed next year by both General Assemblies of Maryland and Virginia.

For these reasons, the department respectfully asks for a favorable committee report Senate Bill 1025 with the attached amendments.

[over]

Respectfully submitted,
James W. McKitrick
Director, Legislative and Constituent Services

BY:

(To be offered in the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 1025
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, after line 21, insert:

“(3) The Governor shall request that the Potomac River Fisheries Commission appoint at least one member to the Task Force.”

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike beginning with “Virginia” in line 1 down through “Resources” in line 2 and substitute “Commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission”; and in line 2, strike “Secretary’s” and substitute “Commissioner’s”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, in line 21, after “ENACTED,” insert “That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Task Force established by this Act constitute a commission to study and make recommendations concerning revision and amendments to the Potomac River Compact of 1958, as described in Article IV, Section 5. of the Compact.”

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED.”