



Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Josh Kurtz, Secretary  
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

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January 23, 2024

**BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 207 – First Reader**

**SHORT TITLE: Natural Resources – Northern Snakehead – Common Name**

**DEPARTMENT’S POSITION: INFORMATIONAL**

**EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT’S POSITION**

The agency is aware of concerns related to marketing snakehead in the food industry under its current common name. The agency is also held to federal law and often works in conjunction with the federal government, other states, and/or universities on research, law, and funding. Therefore, the agency would still need to properly cite articles, studies, and law that contain the common name of Northern Snakehead. Currently, market-related changes and ideas are handled in coordination with the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s Seafood Marketing Program.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

No similar bills have been proposed previously.

**BILL EXPLANATION**

The bill would change the common name of the Northern Snakehead to Patuxent Fish.

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