



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

January 31, 2024

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 19 – 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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