

HOUSE BILL 752

M3

4r3359
CF 4r3158

By: **Delegate Hutchinson**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Tidal Wetland Permit – Ownership of Land**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to transfer certain
4 interest in land to a riparian landowner in a certain manner if the landowner obtains
5 a tidal wetland permit for a certain purpose; and generally relating to the ownership
6 of land subject to a tidal wetland permit.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Environment
9 Section 16–103
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Environment
14 Section 16–108
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Environment**

20 16–103.

21 **[(a)]** Except as specifically provided in this title, a riparian owner may not be
22 deprived of any right, privilege, or enjoyment of riparian ownership that the riparian owner
23 had prior to July 1, 1970.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 [(b) The provisions of this title do not transfer the title or ownership of any land
2 or interest in land.]

3 **16-108.**

4 **IF A RIPARIAN LANDOWNER OBTAINS A TIDAL WETLAND PERMIT FOR THE**
5 **PURPOSE OF CREATING A LIVING SHORELINE OR OTHER SHORELINE STABILIZATION**
6 **MEASURE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSFER IN FEE SIMPLE TO THE RIPARIAN**
7 **LANDOWNER THE INTEREST IN THE LAND THAT IS LANDWARD OF THE MEAN HIGH**
8 **TIDE UP TO THE PORTION OF THE LAND THAT IS STABILIZED UNDER THE PERMIT.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2024.