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**By: Senator Collins**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 1996

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Atlantic Ocean - Otter or Beam Trawl - Purse Seines and Pair Trawlers**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the number of miles from the shoreline that a licensed  
4 person may fish in the Atlantic Ocean with an otter or beam trawl; prohibiting a  
5 person from fishing in the Atlantic Ocean within a certain number of miles from the  
6 shoreline using purse seines and pair trawlers; and generally relating to fishing in  
7 the Atlantic Ocean.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Natural Resources  
10 Section 4-710(b)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

13 BY adding to  
14 Article - Natural Resources  
15 Section 4-710(j)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Natural Resources**

21 4-710.

22 (b) An appropriately licensed person may fish in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean  
23 with an otter trawl or beam trawl, subject to Department rules and regulations, if the  
24 person is at least [one mile] 3 MILES from the shoreline. The Department rules and  
25 regulations shall include:

26 (1) Setting seasons when otter trawl or beam trawl fishing is permitted; and

27 (2) Enumerating the species of fish which may be taken.

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1 (J) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH FISH FOR ANY PURPOSE IN THE WATERS OF  
2 THE ATLANTIC OCEAN WITHIN 3 MILES OF THE SHORELINE USING PURSE SEINES  
3 AND PAIR TRAWLERS.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 1996.