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**By: Delegate Weir**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 1997

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Migratory Waterfowl Stamp - ~~Wildlife~~ Migratory Waterfowl Advisory Committee**

3 FOR the purpose of decreasing the number of members of the ~~Wildlife~~ Migratory  
4 Waterfowl Advisory Committee; altering certain qualifications for members of the  
5 ~~Wildlife~~ Migratory Waterfowl Advisory Committee; altering certain responsibilities  
6 of the ~~Wildlife~~ Migratory Waterfowl Advisory Committee; and generally relating to  
7 the membership and responsibilities of the ~~Wildlife~~ Migratory Waterfowl Advisory  
8 Committee.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Natural Resources  
11 Section 10-308.1(f)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Natural Resources**

17 10-308.1.

18 (f) (1) All revenues accruing to the Wildlife Management and Protection Fund  
19 from sales of the migratory wild waterfowl stamps shall be expended solely for the  
20 following purposes:

21 (i) Waterfowl projects included in an approved State program to  
22 create, develop, enhance, maintain, and manage nesting cover, winter foods, and other  
23 habitat components on public lands to satisfy the habitat requirements of a broad range  
24 of wintering waterfowl and native waterfowl species; and

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1 (ii) Not more than 30% to adopt and implement a program to  
2 eradicate the species *Myocastor coypu* (nutria) and to control the species *Phragmites*  
3 *communis* (phragmites) on private lands.

4 (2) To encourage waterfowl habitat conservation on private lands, the  
5 Department shall implement a 10-year licensing agreement for approved projects on  
6 privately owned lands detailing the landowner's responsibilities. Expenditures by private  
7 landowners on private land for these waterfowl projects approved by the Department and  
8 covered by the licensing agreement shall be considered a contribution to the State.

9 (3) The Governor shall appoint ~~an~~ a [advisory committee] ~~WILDLIFE~~  
10 MIGRATORY WATERFOWL ADVISORY COMMITTEE of [13] 9 members [composed of 9  
11 members who have a practical knowledge in raising wild ducks, and 4 members] who  
12 have a practical knowledge of waterfowl habitat conservation, WATERFOWL ECOLOGY,  
13 WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT, OR WATERFOWL HUNTING.

14 (4) The [committee] COMMITTEE shall advise the Department [of] ON:

15 (i) [The propagation or purchase and distribution of mallard or other  
16 ducks to be released] MATTERS RELATING TO EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS DERIVED  
17 FROM THE SALE OF STATE MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMPS;

18 (ii) [Regulations adopted by the Department to effectuate this  
19 program] RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ~~WILDLIFE~~ MIGRATORY WATERFOWL  
20 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MATTERS RELATING TO POLICY, REGULATIONS, AND  
21 LEGISLATION; and

22 (iii) Waterfowl habitat conservation projects.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 1997.