
By: Senator Collins

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Fishing - Otter or Beam Trawl - Summer Flounder**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from catching summer flounder for commercial
4 harvest in the tidal waters of the State by beam trawl or otter trawl.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Natural Resources
7 Section 4-710(a)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

12 **Article - Natural Resources**

13 4-710.

14 (a) (1) A person may not catch finfish for any purpose in the tidal waters of the
15 State by use of any gig, gig iron, purse net, beam trawl, otter trawl, trammel net, troll net,
16 or drag net.

17 (2) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH SUMMER FLOUNDER FOR COMMERCIAL
18 HARVEST IN THE TIDAL WATERS OF THE STATE BY BEAM TRAWL OR OTTER TRAWL.

19 (3) Any person who violates this section by catching fish with any of the
20 equipment or devices referred to in this subsection, with the exception of a gig or gig iron,
21 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or
22 imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both, with costs imposed in the discretion of the
23 court. Any person who illegally catches fish with a gig or gig iron is subject to the
24 penalties provided by this title.

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