

---

**By: Senator Dyson**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Commercial Fishing - Apprenticeship**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a  
4 commercial fishing apprenticeship; requiring a person to obtain a certain license  
5 before beginning an apprenticeship; prohibiting the Department from issuing an  
6 apprentice license to certain persons; requiring an applicant to submit a certain  
7 application and pay a certain fee; specifying the practical experience of an  
8 apprentice; requiring the Department to issue a commercial tidal fish license to  
9 certain persons under certain circumstances; prohibiting the Department from  
10 placing certain persons on certain waiting lists; requiring the Department to adopt  
11 certain regulations; and generally relating to a commercial fishing apprenticeship.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Natural Resources  
14 Section 4-701.1  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Natural Resources**

20 4-701.1.

21 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL FISHING  
22 APPRENTICESHIP.

23 (B) A PERSON SHALL OBTAIN AN APPRENTICE LICENSE FROM THE  
24 DEPARTMENT BEFORE BEGINNING AN APPRENTICESHIP IN THIS STATE.

25 (C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE AN APPRENTICE LICENSE TO AN  
26 INDIVIDUAL WHO IS YOUNGER THAN 12 YEARS OF AGE.

27 (D) THE APPLICANT SHALL:

28 (1) SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT ON A FORM THE  
29 DEPARTMENT REQUIRES;

2

1 (2) PAY TO THE DEPARTMENT A FEE SET BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND

2 (3) DEMONSTRATE TO THE DEPARTMENT THE APPLICANT'S INTENTION  
3 TO COMMIT TO THE APPRENTICESHIP.

4 (E) THE PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF AN APPRENTICE SHALL INCLUDE:

5 (1) IF THE APPRENTICE IS A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN, AT LEAST 180  
6 DAYS OF LABOR PER SEASON FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE SEASONS PER CATCH  
7 HARVEST SPECIES; OR

8 (2) IF THE APPRENTICE IS A COMMERCIAL FISHING GUIDE, IN  
9 ADDITION TO OBTAINING A COAST GUARD LICENSE, AT LEAST 2 YEARS OF  
10 DOCUMENTED TIME AS A MATE ON A COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL.

11 (F) (1) UPON COMPLETION OF THE APPRENTICESHIP, THE DEPARTMENT  
12 SHALL IMMEDIATELY ISSUE THE APPRENTICE A COMMERCIAL TIDAL FISH LICENSE.

13 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT PLACE AN APPRENTICE WHO HAS  
14 COMPLETED THE APPRENTICESHIP ON THE WAITING LISTS FOR PRIMARY OR  
15 SECONDARY CANDIDATES AS SPECIFIED UNDER § 4-701(F) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16 (G) (1) IF AN APPLICANT FOR A COMMERCIAL TIDAL FISH LICENSE CAN  
17 DEMONSTRATE THAT AN APPLICANT HAS HAD FISHING EXPERIENCE EQUAL TO  
18 THAT REQUIRED UNDER THE APPRENTICESHIP ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1997,  
19 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMMEDIATELY ISSUE THE APPLICANT A LICENSE.

20 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT PLACE AN APPLICANT WHO HAS MET  
21 THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION ON THE WAITING  
22 LISTS FOR PRIMARY OR SECONDARY CANDIDATES AS SPECIFIED UNDER § 4-701(F)  
23 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

24 (H) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
25 SECTION.

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