
By: **Delegate Weir**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 1998

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Fishing - Interference with Fishing Activities**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting persons from interfering with certain fishing
4 activities; allowing for the arrest of persons who interfere with certain fishing
5 activities; and generally relating to interference with fishing activities.

6 BY adding to

7 Article - Natural Resources

8 Section 4-506.1

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Natural Resources**

14 4-506.1.

15 (A) WHILE ON PRIVATE LAND, ON NONTIDAL OR TIDAL WATERS, OR IN AN
16 AREA ON LAND OR WATER MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT, A PERSON MAY NOT
17 WILLFULLY:

18 (1) INTERFERE WITH THE LAWFUL TAKING OF FISH OR OTHER MARINE
19 LIFE BY ANOTHER PERSON;

20 (2) HARASS, DRIVE, OR DISTURB ANY FISH FOR THE PURPOSE OF
21 DISRUPTING A LAWFUL FISHING ACTIVITY;

22 (3) BLOCK, IMPEDE, HARASS, OR DISTURB A PERSON ENGAGED IN A
23 LAWFUL FISHING ACTIVITY;

24 (4) DENY PASSAGE BY CREATING OR ERECTING BARRIERS TO AREAS
25 WHERE A LAWFUL FISHING ACTIVITY IS PERMITTED; OR

1 (5) HINDER A LAWFUL FISHING ACTIVITY BY PLACING OBSTACLES OR
2 OBJECTS IN WATERS OF THE STATE.

3 (B) A NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER POLICE OFFICER OF
4 THE STATE WHO HAS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT A PERSON HAS VIOLATED
5 THIS SECTION MAY:

6 (1) ORDER THE PERSON TO DESIST OR TO LEAVE THE AREA; OR

7 (2) ARREST THE PERSON WHO REFUSES TO DESIST OR TO LEAVE THE
8 AREA.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 1998.