
By: **Senator Stoltzfus**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County - Power Dredging for Oysters**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing a person to power dredge oysters in certain waters of
4 Somerset County under certain conditions; requiring the Department of Natural
5 Resources to designate a certain area as an oyster sanctuary; prohibiting a
6 person from catching oysters in a certain oyster sanctuary; and generally
7 relating to power dredging oysters in Somerset County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Natural Resources
10 Section 4-1014(d) and (f)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Natural Resources**

16 4-1014.

17 (d) A person may catch oysters by power dredge only during the power
18 dredging season from November 1 to March 15 in the following areas:

19 (1) In the waters of this State that lie contiguous to Somerset County,
20 including all of the waters from the area of Kedges Straits from a line drawn from the
21 quick flash buoy at Fog Point east to Solomons Lump Light, north to Sheepshead
22 Point, and along the west side of South March Island to the crab pot line on Pry
23 Island; and

24 (2) In the waters of Tangier Sound, that area enclosed by a line
25 beginning at buoy "8", then eastward to James Island Light, then to the range marker
26 at Great Point, then following the shoreline southward to the Maryland/Virginia line,
27 then westward to buoy "6", then northward to buoy "8", the point of beginning.

1 (3) IN THE WATERS OF TANGIER SOUND, THAT AREA BEGINNING AT THE
2 JUNCTION RED AND GREEN BUOY AT THE MOUTH OF THE MONOKIN RIVER AND BIG
3 ANNEMESSEX RIVER, THEN SOUTHWARD TO FLASHING FOUR SECOND BUOY AT
4 JANES ISLAND, THEN SOUTHWESTWARD TO HORSE HAMMOCK POINT, THEN
5 NORTHWARD ALONG THE EASTERN SHORELINE OF SMITH ISLAND AND TO FISHING
6 POINT, THEN NORTHEASTWARD TO THE FLASHING GREEN FOUR BELL NUMBER 5
7 BUOY, THEN SOUTHEASTWARD TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

8 (4) IN THE WATERS OF TANGIER SOUND, THAT AREA BEGINNING AT THE
9 JUNCTION RED AND GREEN BUOY AT THE MOUTH OF THE MONOKIN RIVER AND BIG
10 ANNEMESSEX RIVER, THEN NORTHWARD TO PINEY ISLAND, THEN NORTHEASTWARD
11 TO THE SOUTHEASTERN MOST POINT OF LAND OF ST. PIERRE ISLAND, THEN TO THE
12 SOUTHERNMOST POINT OF LAND AT NORMAL POINT, THEN FOLLOWING THE
13 SHORELINE IN A SOUTHWEST DIRECTION TO HAZARD POINT, THEN CONTINUING
14 ALONG THE SHORELINE SOUTHWARD TO THE MOUTH OF THE BIG ANNEMESSEX
15 RIVER, THEN TO THE POINT OF LAND DUE NORTH OF DAY BEACON NUMBER 5, THEN
16 ACROSS THE BIG ANNEMESSEX RIVER TO LONG POINT, THEN FOLLOWING THE
17 SHORELINE SOUTHWEST TO FLATCAR POINT, THEN BACK TO THE POINT OF
18 BEGINNING.

19 (f) (1) The Secretary may adopt regulations to carry out the intent of this
20 section.

21 (2) The regulations adopted by the Secretary may vary the limits
22 established under subsection (e)(2)(i) of this section.

23 (3) (I) THE REGULATIONS SHALL ESTABLISH AN OYSTER SANCTUARY
24 OF NOT LESS THAN 100 ACRES WITHIN THE AREA DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (D)(4)
25 OF THIS SECTION.

26 (II) A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH OYSTERS IN THE SANCTUARY
27 ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 June 1, 1999.