
By: **Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2000

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Fishing - Regulation of Pound or Stake Nets**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain requirement to provide certain information in
4 certain license applications on the placement of certain nets; authorizing the
5 Department of Natural Resources to adopt certain regulations on the placement
6 of certain nets; and generally relating to the regulation of pound or stake nets.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Natural Resources
9 Section 4-704
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

12 BY adding to
13 Article - Natural Resources
14 Section 4-711(i)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 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 4-704.

21 (a) A person may not catch or attempt to catch finfish in the tidal waters of
22 the State by the use of any net or other device except hook and line, dip net operated
23 by hand, spear gun, or bow and arrow pursuant to the provisions of this subtitle
24 unless he possesses a valid license to catch finfish issued by the Department.

25 (b) An applicant for a license to catch finfish shall furnish information the
26 Department requires. [The application shall state the exact location where any pound
27 net is to be set. Each applicant shall certify whether he previously had a license for
28 nets or seines in the State, and if so, that he had complied with the provisions of this

1 subtitle concerning the removal and renewal of stakes, including § 4-711 requiring
2 stakes to be maintained in good condition. Failure to furnish the required information
3 or making a false statement as to any material fact, constitutes sufficient grounds to
4 deny an application.]

5 (c) The Department may not grant a license to any person, under the
6 provisions of this subtitle, to set a pound net on the location occupied by any other
7 pound net or within 4,500 feet in the Chesapeake Bay or 1,500 feet in a tributary of
8 the Chesapeake Bay measured at right angles to the line of stakes, unless the other
9 licensee failed to apply for renewal of his license by the expiration date of the year for
10 which it was granted.

11 4-711.

12 (I) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS ON THE PLACEMENT OF
13 POUND OR STAKE NETS, INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF LOCATIONS OF POUND NETS
14 THAT MAY BE ASSIGNED TO A LICENSEE.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2000.