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By: **Delegates Bozman, Guns, and Conway**  
Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2001  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prohibited Species of Crabs**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to adopt  
4 regulations to limit or prohibit the importation, use, catching, or possessing of  
5 certain nonnative crab species which have been determined to be harmful to the  
6 ecology and natural resources of the State.

7 BY adding to  
8 Article - Natural Resources  
9 Section 4-816  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2000 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article - Natural Resources**

15 4-816.

16 THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO LIMIT OR PROHIBIT THE  
17 IMPORTATION, USE, CATCHING, OR POSSESSING OF THE FOLLOWING NONNATIVE  
18 CRAB SPECIES, WHICH ARE DETERMINED TO BE HARMFUL TO THE ECOLOGY AND  
19 NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE:

20 (1) GREEN CRAB (CARCINUS MAENAS) OF THE FAMILY PORTUNIDAE;

21 (2) JAPANESE SHORE CRAB (HEMIGRAPUS SANGUINEUS) OF THE  
22 FAMILY GRAPSIDAE; AND

23 (3) CHINESE MITTEN CRAB (ERIOCHEIR SINENSIS) OF THE FAMILY  
24 GRAPSIDAE.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2001.