

HOUSE BILL 772
EMERGENCY BILL

Unofficial Copy
M2

2001 Regular Session
(11r1884)

ENROLLED BILL

-- *Environmental Matters/Economic and Environmental Affairs* --

Introduced by **Delegates Wood, Weir, McClenahan, and W. Baker**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Recreational and Commercial Crabbing License**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain provisions of law establishing a noncommercial
4 crabbing license; requiring an individual who ~~catches or possesses~~ uses certain
5 gear to catch or possess crabs in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal
6 tributaries for recreational purposes to obtain a recreational crabbing license;
7 providing a certain exception to the licensing requirement; establishing certain
8 restrictions on gear that may be used for catching crabs for recreational
9 purposes; establishing certain limits on the numbers of certain crabs that
10 licensed and ~~exempted~~ unlicensed individuals may catch or possess; prohibiting
11 certain individuals from offering to sell or selling crabs that were caught for
12 recreational purposes; prohibiting an individual from catching crabs for
13 recreational purposes until a certain time of day; prohibiting the Department
14 from adopting certain regulations; providing that certain penalties apply for
15 violations of this Act; repealing certain obsolete provisions of law; ~~removing the~~
16 ~~termination date of certain provisions of law~~; making this Act an emergency
17 measure; and generally relating to recreational crabbing licenses.

1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
2 Article - Natural Resources
3 Section 4-803 and 4-805
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2000 Replacement Volume)

6 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
7 ~~Chapter 418 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998~~
8 ~~Section 12~~

9 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
10 ~~Chapter 419 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998~~
11 ~~Section 12~~

12 BY repealing
13 Chapter 184 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1994
14 Section 3

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

17 **Article - Natural Resources**

18 4-803.

19 (a) The Department may adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the
20 following purposes:

21 (1) To restrict catching and possessing any blue crab;

22 (2) The methods by which crabs are taken;

23 (3) To close or open any specified area to catch crabs;

24 (4) To prohibit or restrict devices used to catch crabs;

25 (5) To establish seasons to catch crabs; and

26 (6) To establish minimum size limits for hard, soft, and peeler crabs.

27 However, this section does not permit the Department to change existing license fees
28 for catching, picking, canning, packing, or shipping cooked hard or soft crabs or crab
29 meat; or for selling, or shipping live hard or soft crabs by barrel or crate. The
30 Department may set license fees on types of gear or equipment if not otherwise set by
31 law.

32 (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ADOPT REGULATIONS TO:

1 (1) RESTRICT A TIDAL FISH LICENSEE WHO CATCHES CRABS USING
2 TROTLINE GEAR TO A WORKDAY OF LESS THAN 8 HOURS PER DAY, EXCLUDING TIME
3 SPENT SETTING OR TAKING UP GEAR;

4 (2) ESTABLISH TIME RESTRICTIONS ON A TIDAL FISH LICENSEE USING
5 TROTLINE GEAR FOR SETTING AND TAKING UP GEAR; OR

6 (3) PROHIBIT A TIDAL FISH LICENSEE FROM OBSTRUCTING THE CULL
7 RING OF A HARD CRAB POT AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR IN ORDER TO CATCH PEELER
8 CRABS.

9 [(b)] (C) The Department's regulations may not become effective under this
10 section until the Department first holds public hearings. The Department shall
11 advertise the time, place, and purpose of the hearings in one newspaper of general
12 daily circulation in the State, and at least in one newspaper circulated in the affected
13 region of each county whose waters may be directly affected by the proposed
14 regulations for 2 successive weeks in advance of the hearings.

15 4-805.

16 (a) [An individual who attempts to catch or catches crabs in the waters of the
17 Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries for noncommercial purposes shall obtain a
18 noncommercial crabbing license if the individual:

19 (1) Uses more than 600 feet but not more than 1,200 feet of trotline;

20 (2) Uses more than 10 but not more than 30 collapsible traps or net
21 rings; or

22 (3) Uses no more than 10 eel pots for catching the individual's own bait]
23 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY
24 NOT CATCH OR POSSESS CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN THE WATERS OF
25 THE CHESAPEAKE BAY OR ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A
26 RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE IF THE INDIVIDUAL USES:

27 (1) UP TO 1200 FEET OF TROTLINE;

28 (2) MORE THAN 10 BUT LESS THAN 30 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS OR NET
29 RINGS;

30 (3) MORE THAN 10 BUT LESS THAN 30 OF A COMBINATION OF
31 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND NET RINGS; OR

32 (4) UP TO 10 EEL POTS FOR CATCHING THE INDIVIDUAL'S OWN BAIT.

33 (b) A [noncommercial] RECREATIONAL crabbing license OR RECREATIONAL
34 CRABBING BOAT LICENSE issued under this section is valid for not more than 1 year
35 and expires on December 31 of each year.

1 (c) (1) A [noncommercial] RECREATIONAL crabbing license OR
2 RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT LICENSE may be obtained from any authorized
3 agent of the Department.

4 (2) The annual [noncommercial] RECREATIONAL crabbing license fees
5 are:

6 (i) For a Maryland resident, \$5;

7 (ii) For a Maryland resident, in possession of a Maryland
8 Chesapeake Bay sport fishing license or a resident consolidated senior sport fishing
9 license, \$2; and

10 (iii) For a nonresident, \$10.

11 (3) THE ANNUAL FEE FOR A RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT LICENSE
12 IS \$15.

13 ~~(3)~~ (4) (i) The Department may designate a person engaged in a
14 commercial enterprise to sell [noncommercial] RECREATIONAL crabbing licenses OR
15 RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT LICENSES as an agent under the Department's
16 control and supervision.

17 (ii) An agent selling [noncommercial] RECREATIONAL crabbing
18 licenses under this paragraph may retain 50 cents for each license issued by the
19 agent.

20 (III) AN AGENT SELLING RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT LICENSES
21 UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MAY RETAIN \$1.50 FOR EACH LICENSE ISSUED BY THE
22 AGENT.

23 (5) (I) IF A BOAT OWNER PURCHASES A RECREATIONAL CRABBING
24 BOAT LICENSE UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOAT OWNER MAY
25 CATCH CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES ANYWHERE IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY,
26 WHETHER THE BOAT OWNER IS FISHING IN THE OWNER'S BOAT, IN ANOTHER
27 PERSON'S BOAT, ON LAND, OR ELSEWHERE.

28 (II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A COMPLIMENTARY
29 RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE TO A BOAT OWNER WHO PURCHASES A
30 RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT LICENSE UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS
31 SUBSECTION.

32 (III) IF A BOAT TO WHICH THE RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT
33 LICENSE IS AFFIXED HAS MORE THAN ONE OWNER, ONLY THE INDIVIDUAL
34 APPLICANT WHO SIGNS THE APPLICATION FOR THE RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT
35 LICENSE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A COMPLIMENTARY RECREATIONAL CRABBING
36 LICENSE UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

37 (6) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ABOARD A BOAT WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
38 HAS A RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A

1 RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL IS
2 PARTICIPATING IN RECREATIONAL CRABBING ACTIVITIES.

3 (d) [A noncommercial crabbing license is not required for:

4 (1) An individual to take crabs by dipnet or handline;

5 (2) A person who owns private property along the shore to set up to two
6 crab pots from that private property;

7 (3) An individual who uses 600 feet or less of trotline;

8 (4) An individual who uses 10 or fewer collapsible traps or net rings;

9 (5) Multiple individuals on a boat who use 600 feet or less of trotline; or

10 (6) Multiple individuals on a boat who use fewer than 25 collapsible
11 traps or net rings.

12 (e) (1) The daily catch limits for hard crabs under this section are:

13 (i) 1 bushel for an individual exempt under subsection (d) of this
14 section;

15 (ii) 2 bushels per boat if two or more individuals exempt under
16 subsection (d) of this section are on the boat;

17 (iii) 2 bushels for a holder of a noncommercial crabbing license; or

18 (iv) 3 bushels per boat if two or more individuals who hold a
19 noncommercial crabbing license are on the boat.

20 (2) The daily catch limits for peeler crabs and soft shell crabs under this
21 section are:

22 (i) 3 dozen for a holder of a noncommercial crabbing license; or

23 (ii) 1 dozen for an individual exempt under subsection (d) of this
24 section.

25 (f) (1) The Department shall deposit all fees received for noncommercial
26 crabbing licenses to the credit of the fisheries research and development fund to be
27 used for research, including independent studies of the fishery, and to determine the
28 extent of the noncommercial crab catch. The amount of funds expended on the crab
29 research may not exceed \$200,000.

30 (2) Any funds remaining beyond the financial demands of the research
31 required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be used for enforcement.]

32 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEPOSIT ALL FEES RECEIVED FOR RECREATIONAL
33 CRABBING LICENSES TO THE CREDIT OF THE FISHERIES RESEARCH AND

1 DEVELOPMENT FUND TO BE USED FOR RESEARCH, INCLUDING THE
 2 DETERMINATION OF THE ANNUAL RECREATIONAL CRAB CATCH, INDEPENDENT
 3 STUDIES OF THE CRAB FISHERY, AND ENFORCEMENT ~~OF RECREATIONAL CRABBING.~~

4 (E) (1) ~~AN INDIVIDUAL MAY CATCH AND POSSESS CRABS FOR~~
 5 ~~RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN THE WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TIDAL~~
 6 ~~TRIBUTARIES WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING IS NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A~~
 7 ~~RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE FOR CRABBING FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES~~
 8 IN THE WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY OR ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES IF:

9 (I) THE INDIVIDUAL IS UNDER THE AGE OF 16;

10 (II) THE INDIVIDUAL IS CRABBING FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES
 11 IN A PUBLIC CRABBING AREA ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND IN A MANNER
 12 AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH REGULATION;

13 (III) THE INDIVIDUAL IS CRABBING FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES
 14 FROM A BOAT AND THE BOAT HAS BEEN LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT:

15 1. AS A RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT UNDER
 16 SUBSECTION (C)(3) OF THIS SECTION; OR

17 2. UNDER § 4-745 OF THIS TITLE; OR

18 (IV) THE INDIVIDUAL USES:

19 1. A DIPNET;

20 2. A HANDLINE;

21 3. UP TO 10 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS OR NET RINGS; OR

22 4. UP TO 10 OF A COMBINATION OF COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND
 23 NET RINGS.

24 (2) AN OWNER OF PRIVATE SHORELINE PROPERTY OR A GUEST OF THE
 25 OWNER IS NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE TO
 26 CATCH CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN THE WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE
 27 BAY OR ITS TIDAL TRIBUTARIES IF THE OWNER OR GUEST USES NOT MORE THAN
 28 TWO CRAB POTS FROM THE OWNER'S PROPERTY.

29 (F) (1) ~~(4) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS~~
 30 ~~PARAGRAPH, AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION~~
 31 ~~OR AN INDIVIDUAL EXEMPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT~~
 32 ~~CATCH MORE THAN:~~

33 (I) 1 BUSHEL OF HARD CRABS PER DAY; AND

34 (II) 2 DOZEN PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS OR A COMBINATION OF 2
 35 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS.

1 ~~(H)~~ REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
 2 LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION OR EXEMPTED UNDER
 3 SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION ARE ON A BOAT, NOT MORE THAN 1 BUSHEL OF
 4 HARD CRABS PER DAY MAY BE TAKEN PER BOAT.

5 ~~(2)~~ ~~(I)~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
 6 PARAGRAPH, AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION
 7 OR AN INDIVIDUAL EXEMPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT
 8 CATCH OR POSSESS PER DAY MORE THAN 1 DOZEN PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS OR A
 9 COMBINATION OF 1 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS.

10 (2) THE DAILY CATCH LIMIT FOR CATCHING CRABS FROM A BOAT THAT
 11 IS LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(3) OF THIS SECTION IS:

12 (I) 1 BUSHEL OF HARD CRABS PER BOAT AND 2 DOZEN PEELERS OR
 13 SOFT CRABS PER BOAT OR A COMBINATION OF 2 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS IF
 14 NO LICENSED INDIVIDUAL IS ON THE BOAT; OR

15 (II) ~~1 BUSHEL~~ IF 2 OR MORE LICENSEES ARE ON THE BOAT, 2
 16 BUSHELS OF HARD CRABS PER LICENSEE BOAT AND 2 DOZEN PEELERS OR SOFT
 17 CRABS PER LICENSEE BOAT OR A COMBINATION OF 2 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT
 18 CRABS.

19 ~~(H)~~ REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
 20 LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION OR EXEMPTED UNDER
 21 SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION ARE ON A BOAT, NOT MORE THAN 2 DOZEN
 22 PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS OR A COMBINATION OF 2 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS
 23 PER DAY MAY BE TAKEN PER BOAT.

24 (3) IF 2 OR MORE LICENSED INDIVIDUALS ARE ON A BOAT THAT IS NOT
 25 LICENSED AS A RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOAT, THE DAILY CATCH LIMIT IS 2
 26 BUSHELS OF HARD CRABS PER BOAT AND 4 DOZEN PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS PER
 27 BOAT OR A COMBINATION OF 4 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS.

28 ~~(3)~~ ~~(4)~~ (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
 29 SUBSECTION AND SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
 30 DOES NOT HAVE A RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE MAY NOT CATCH MORE THAN
 31 ~~4~~ 2 DOZEN HARD CRABS AND 1 DOZEN PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS OR A COMBINATION
 32 OF 1 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS PER DAY.

33 (II) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
 34 THE DAILY CATCH LIMIT FOR A BOAT ON WHICH NONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS HAS A
 35 RECREATIONAL CRABBING LICENSE IS 4 DOZEN HARD CRABS AND 1 DOZEN PEELERS
 36 OR SOFT CRABS OR A COMBINATION OF 1 DOZEN PEELERS AND SOFT CRABS.

37 ~~(4)~~ (5) AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS A FISHING
 38 GUIDE OR TO FISH RECREATIONALLY IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY MAY POSSESS ANY
 39 NUMBER OF PEELERS OR SOFT CRABS FOR THE PURPOSES OF FISHING.

1 (G) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN
 2 INDIVIDUAL LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ~~OR AN INDIVIDUAL~~
 3 ~~EXEMPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION~~ MAY ONLY USE THE
 4 FOLLOWING GEAR:

5 (I) ~~ONE~~ TROTLINE GEAR THAT MAY NOT EXCEED ~~4,000~~ 1,200 FEET
 6 IN LENGTH FOR THE BAITED PORTION;

7 (II) 1. NOT MORE THAN ~~20~~ 30 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS OR NET
 8 RINGS; OR

9 2. NOT MORE THAN ~~20~~ 30 OF A COMBINATION OF
 10 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND NET RINGS; ~~AND~~

11 (III) HANDLINES, DIPNETS, SEINES;

12 ~~(IV) NOT MORE THAN 2 CRAB POTS SET FROM A PRIVATE~~
 13 ~~SHORELINE FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES; AND~~

14 (IV) UP TO 10 EEL POTS FOR CATCHING THE INDIVIDUAL'S OWN
 15 BAIT; AND

16 (V) ANY OTHER GEAR SPECIFIED IN REGULATION FOR THE
 17 CATCHING OF CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

18 (2) ~~REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE LICENSED~~
 19 ~~UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION OR EXEMPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF~~
 20 ~~THIS SECTION ARE ON A BOAT, IF AT LEAST ONE INDIVIDUAL ON A BOAT IS LICENSED~~
 21 ~~UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION, OR IF THE BOAT IS LICENSED UNDER~~
 22 ~~SUBSECTION (C)(3) OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING LIMITS ON GEAR APPLY TO~~
 23 ~~THE BOAT:~~

24 (I) ~~ONE~~ TROTLINE GEAR THAT MAY NOT EXCEED ~~4,000~~ 1,200 FEET
 25 IN LENGTH FOR THE BAITED PORTION; ~~AND~~

26 (II) 1. NOT MORE THAN ~~20~~ 30 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS OR NET
 27 RINGS; OR

28 2. NOT MORE THAN ~~20~~ 30 OF A COMBINATION OF
 29 COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS AND NET RINGS;

30 (III) HANDLINES, DIPNETS, SEINES; AND

31 (IV) ANY OTHER GEAR LIMITATIONS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION
 32 FOR THE CATCHING OF CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

33 (H) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT SET GEAR TO CATCH CRABS FOR RECREATIONAL
 34 PURPOSES UNTIL AT LEAST ONE-HALF HOUR AFTER THE WORK DAY BEGINS FOR
 35 INDIVIDUALS WHO CRAB FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

1 (I) IF THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS
 2 SECTION AND UNLICENSED INDIVIDUALS ABOARD A BOAT ENGAGED IN
 3 RECREATIONAL CRABBING, THE DAILY CATCH LIMITS IN SUBSECTION (F)(1) OF THIS
 4 SECTION SHALL APPLY.

5 ~~(3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS~~
 6 ~~SECTION AND WHO OWNS PRIVATE PROPERTY ALONG THE SHORE:~~

7 ~~(4) MAY NOT SET MORE THAN 2 CRAB POTS FROM THE~~
 8 ~~INDIVIDUAL'S PROPERTY; AND~~

9 ~~(H) SHALL DISPLAY THE INDIVIDUAL'S LICENSE NUMBER, WITH~~
 10 ~~CHARACTERS NOT LESS THAN 2 INCHES HIGH, ON A SIGN AFFIXED TO A POLE OR~~
 11 ~~PIER ATTACHED TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S PROPERTY.~~

12 [(g)] ~~(H)~~ (J) (1) An individual who may catch or attempt to catch crabs
 13 under this section may not offer to sell or sell crabs that were caught for
 14 [noncommercial or] recreational purposes.

15 (2) [A person] AN INDIVIDUAL may not knowingly buy or offer to buy
 16 crabs from [an] ANOTHER individual who caught crabs for [noncommercial]
 17 RECREATIONAL purposes under this section.

18 [(h)] ~~(H)~~ (K) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, [a
 19 person] AN INDIVIDUAL who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a
 20 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to:

21 (i) For a first offense, a fine not exceeding \$500; and

22 (ii) For a second or subsequent offense, a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

23 (2) [A person] AN INDIVIDUAL who violates subsection [(g)] (H) of this
 24 section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to:

25 (i) For a first offense, a fine not exceeding \$500; and

26 (ii) For a second or subsequent offense, a fine of not less than \$500
 27 and not exceeding \$2,000.

28 **Chapter 418 of the Acts of 1998**

29 ~~SECTION 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 3 and 11 of this~~
 30 ~~Act shall take effect January 1, 1999. [They shall remain effective for a period of 5~~
 31 ~~years, and, at the end of December 31, 2003, with no further action required by the~~
 32 ~~General Assembly, Sections 3 and 11 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further~~
 33 ~~force and effect.]~~

1

Chapter 419 of the Acts of 1998

2 ~~SECTION 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 3 and 11 of this~~
3 ~~Act shall take effect January 1, 1999. [They shall remain effective for a period of 5~~
4 ~~years, and, at the end of December 31, 2003, with no further action required by the~~
5 ~~General Assembly, Sections 3 and 11 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further~~
6 ~~force and effect.]~~

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 3 of Chapter
8 184 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1994 be repealed.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
10 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety,
11 has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all of the members
12 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
13 the date it is enacted.