
By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (Departmental - Natural Resources)**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Natural Resources - Vessels**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain fees for certain manufacturers' and dealers'
4 licenses; altering certain fees relating to the titling and registration of vessels;
5 permitting the issuance of a certificate of number and a use sticker for a vessel
6 for a certain period for a certain fee; deleting a provision relating to service
7 charges for returned checks; and generally relating to fees for vessel titling,
8 vessel registration, and vessel dealers and manufacturers.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Natural Resources
11 Section 8-710(c), 8-712(c), 8-712.1(a) and (b), 8-714(c), and 8-716(b)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

14 BY repealing
15 Article - Natural Resources
16 Section 8-712(f)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

19 BY renumbering
20 Article - Natural Resources
21 Section 8-712(g) and (h), respectively
22 to be Section 8-712(f) and (g), respectively
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

25 Preamble

26 WHEREAS, Maryland has joined with its partner states in the Chesapeake
27 Bay watershed through the 2000 Chesapeake Bay Agreement to pledge to take

1 actions to restore the Chesapeake Bay by 2010 and has signed an agreement to
2 restore the Coastal Bays; and

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Agreement includes a commitment to
4 provide every student living in the watershed with a meaningful outdoor Bay
5 experience by 2005, and such personal participation has been shown to enhance their
6 overall learning experience and to prepare the children, Maryland's future citizens, to
7 better appreciate, understand, use, and protect the Chesapeake Bay; and

8 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Agreement and the Coastal Bays
9 management plan pledge to increase our efforts to protect and restore bay grasses,
10 vital habitat of critical importance to our Bays' living resources; and

11 WHEREAS, Greater utilization of the Internet and the capabilities of the web
12 site of the Department of Natural Resources will enable boat owners to renew their
13 boat registrations using this technology resulting in enhanced efficiency and greater
14 customer satisfaction among the boating public; and

15 WHEREAS, These efforts to protect the Chesapeake Bay and the Coastal Bays
16 and increase the Department's utilization of the latest technologies will only move as
17 far as funding will permit, and many vessel fees have not increased since the period
18 from 1965 to 1970; now, therefore,

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

21 **Article - Natural Resources**

22 8-710.

23 (c) (1) Application for a manufacturer's or dealer's license is made on the
24 form the Department prescribes and contains the name and address of the applicant.
25 If the applicant is a partnership, the application shall include the name and address
26 of each partner. If the applicant is a corporation, the application shall contain the
27 names of the principal officers of the corporation, the state of incorporation, the
28 addresses of every place where the business is conducted, the nature of the business,
29 and any other information the Department requires. Every application shall be
30 verified by oath or affirmation of the applicant if an individual, or by the partner or
31 officer if the applicant is a partnership or corporation. A license fee fixed by the
32 Department not to exceed [25] \$50 shall accompany every application.

33 (2) Registration for purposes of displaying and selling vessels at a boat
34 show, boat exposition, or outdoor recreation show shall be made on forms the
35 Department prescribes and may require the same information and verification as for
36 application for a manufacturer's or dealer's license.

37 (3) The registration fee shall be deposited in the Boat Dealer Assurance
38 Fund provided for in § 8-710.2 of this subtitle up to the Fund's authorized maximum
39 amount. Amounts received in excess of the Fund's authorized maximum amount shall
40 be deposited and used in accordance with § 8-723 of this subtitle.

1 8-712.

2 (c) (1) [Certificates] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS
3 SUBSECTION, CERTIFICATES of number issued under this section shall be valid for a
4 period not to exceed 2 years. The owner of the vessel may apply every other year for
5 renewal of the certificate. The renewed certificate shall expire on December 31 of the
6 calendar year following the year the certificate is issued. The fee for a 2-year
7 certificate for vessels is [~~\$24~~] \$40. [Vessels] THE FEE FOR VESSELS 16 feet in length
8 or less and equipped with a 7 1/2 horsepower motor or less [are exempt from this fee]
9 IS \$25.

10 (2) A CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER ISSUED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL
11 BE VALID FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 3 YEARS. THE OWNER OF THE VESSEL MAY
12 APPLY EVERY THIRD YEAR FOR RENEWAL OF THE CERTIFICATE. THE RENEWED
13 CERTIFICATE SHALL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE SECOND CALENDAR YEAR
14 FOLLOWING THE YEAR THE CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED. THE FEE FOR A 3-YEAR
15 CERTIFICATE FOR VESSELS IS \$60. THE FEE FOR VESSELS 16 FEET IN LENGTH OR
16 LESS EQUIPPED WITH A 7 1/2 HORSEPOWER MOTOR OR LESS IS \$37.50.

17 (3) The fee to replace a lost, destroyed, or corrected certificate is [~~\$2~~] \$10.
18 The Department shall record any transaction or transfer of numbered boats. The
19 Department may record any amount of money owing on a vessel required to be
20 numbered at the time of sale. The Department may not effect a transfer of ownership
21 until the amount of money owed as shown on the records of the Department is fully
22 paid or recorded on the new title. Any vessel that is required to be numbered under
23 this section that is exempt prior to January 1, 1974 shall be exempt from payment of
24 this title tax.

25 [~~(2)~~] (4) Emergency rescue boats that belong to fire departments or
26 rescue squads in Maryland:

27 (i) Shall be exempt from all registration fees; but

28 (ii) Shall apply for a registration renewal every 3 years.

29 [(f) There is a \$5 service charge for every check returned unpaid.]

30 8-712.1.

31 (a) (1) An owner of a vessel that has a valid document issued by the United
32 States Coast Guard and that is used principally on the waters of the State for
33 pleasure shall apply to the Department for a Maryland use sticker.

34 (2) The Department shall issue a Maryland use sticker to any person
35 who submits an application and pays [a fee as required by subsection (b) of this
36 section] THE REQUISITE FEE.

37 (3) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS
38 SUBSECTION, THE Maryland use sticker issued under this section shall be valid for a

1 period not to exceed 2 years expiring on December 31 of the calendar year following
2 the year the sticker is issued.

3 (4) A MARYLAND USE STICKER ISSUED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL
4 BE VALID FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 3 YEARS. THE OWNER OF THE VESSEL MAY
5 APPLY EVERY THIRD YEAR FOR RENEWAL OF THE USE STICKER. THE RENEWED USE
6 STICKER SHALL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE SECOND CALENDAR YEAR
7 FOLLOWING THE YEAR THE USE STICKER IS ISSUED. THE FEE FOR A 3-YEAR USE
8 STICKER FOR VESSELS IS \$60.

9 (b) The owner of the vessel shall:

10 (1) Submit an application to the Department on the form that the
11 Department requires and be signed by every owner of the vessel; and

12 (2) Pay to the Department an application fee of [~~\$10~~] \$40 for the 2-year
13 sticker.

14 8-714.

15 (c) Each application for the manufacturer's or dealer's certificates of number
16 shall be on forms the Department approves and be accompanied by a fee of [~~\$24~~] \$40.
17 The certificate of number issued under this section is valid for a period not to exceed
18 2 years and shall expire on December 31 of the calendar year following the year the
19 certificate is issued.

20 8-716.

21 (b) The Department shall charge a [~~\$2~~] \$10 fee to issue a certificate of title, a
22 transfer of title, or a duplicate or corrected certificate of title.

23 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 8-712(g) and (h),
24 respectively, of Article - Natural Resources of the Annotated Code of Maryland be
25 renumbered to be Section(s) 8-712(f) and (g), respectively.

26 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
27 effect October 1, 2002.