
By: **Delegate Schisler**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2002

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Net Fishing - Restrictions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain restrictions on net fishing in certain geographic
4 areas; and generally relating to restrictions on net fishing.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article - Natural Resources

7 Section 4-728(a) and 4-730(a)

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Natural Resources**

13 4-728.

14 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a person may
15 not set any net within 1,650 feet in any direction of any other net, or any net of a total
16 length of more than 1,500 feet, including the net's leaders, hedges, or wings. In
17 addition, a net may not be set at a distance greater than one-fourth the distance
18 across the bay, measured from the low water mark.

19 (2) In the waters in the part of the Chesapeake Bay which lies between a
20 straight line drawn from Drum Point Lighthouse in Calvert County to [Hog Point]
21 FISHING POINT in St. Mary's County, and a straight line drawn from Cove Point
22 Lighthouse in Calvert County to Cedar Point Lighthouse in St. Mary's County, a
23 person may not set any kind of net:

24 (i) Nearer than 500 yards in every direction from any other net;

25 (ii) Of a total length of more than 550 yards including the net's
26 leaders, hedges, or wings; or

1 (iii) At a greater distance than one-fourth the distance across these
2 waters measured from the low water mark on either side.

3 4-730.

4 (a) (1) A person may not set[, nor] OR construct [any kind or description of]
5 A net in the Patuxent River [from Queen Anne Bridge to the mouth of the river,]:

6 (I) [within] WITHIN 1,500 feet in every direction from any other
7 net[,] without the permission of the owner of the other net[. In addition, a person
8 may not set, nor construct, any net] FROM QUEEN ANNE BRIDGE TO A LINE FROM
9 DRUM POINT LIGHTHOUSE IN CALVERT COUNTY TO FISHING POINT IN ST. MARY'S
10 COUNTY;

11 (II) [more] MORE than 425 feet in length, including the net's
12 leaders, hedges, or wings, below a straight line from Holland's Cliffs across the river
13 to a point on the shore directly opposite Holland's Cliffs[,]; or

14 (III) [more] MORE than 150 feet in length including the net's
15 leaders, hedges, or wings, above the straight line from Holland's Cliffs.

16 (2) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to floating gill nets or
17 seines.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2002.