Unofficial Copy M2 2003 Regular Session 3lr1238 CF 3lr1637

By: Delegate Schisler Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003 Assigned to: Environmental Matters A BILL ENTITLED 1 AN ACT concerning 2 Study of Nonnative Oyster Species - Findings of the National Academy of 3 **Sciences** 4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that certain study of certain nonnative 5 oyster species proceed in accordance with certain findings of the National 6 Academy of Sciences; requiring certain National Academy of Sciences findings be included in certain study to a certain extent; and generally relating to the 7 8 study of nonnative oyster species. 9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002 10 11 Section 1(a)(1) and (d) 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002 13 14 Section 1(a)(2)15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 17 Chapter 508 of the Acts of 2002 18 1. 19 (a) (1) The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize the study of 20 the Suminoe oyster (Crassostrea ariakensis) and other nonnative species by both 21 private and public research institutions with expertise in the field. 22 (2) The study required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall 23 INCLUDE: 24 [Include an] AN analysis of the ecological benefits and risks 25 associated with the introduction of:

Reproductively capable nonnative oyster species in

1.

27 Maryland waters, for purposes of fisheries restoration or any other purpose; and

16 June 1, 2003.

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1	2. Sterile nonnative species in Maryland, for purposes of the development of aquaculture or any other purpose; and
2	development of aquaculture of any other purpose, and
	(ii) [Proceed in accordance with] TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE AS THE STUDY PROGRESSES, the findings of the National Academy of Sciences review of the Suminoe oyster.
	(d) The Department shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the House Environmental Matters Committee and the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:
	(1) By December 1, 2002, an interim report on the status of ongoing research and all interim findings available to the Department, including findings to date of the National Academy of Sciences review of the Suminoe oyster; and
	(2) By December 1, 2004, a final report on all findings available to date from the National Academy of Sciences review and from studies conducted under this Act.
15	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect