

SENATE BILL 675

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SB 475/03 - EHE

2004 Regular Session
4r2516

By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2004
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 23, 2004

CHAPTER _____

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 that the study be consistent with certain
7 National Academy of Sciences findings ~~be included in certain study to a certain~~
8 ~~extent~~; and generally relating to the study of nonnative oyster species.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002
11 Section 1(a)(1) and (d)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Chapter 508 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002
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 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, That:

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.

1 (2) The study required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
2 ~~INCLUDE~~:

3 (i) ~~[Include an]~~ ~~AN~~ analysis of the ecological benefits and risks
4 associated with the introduction of:

5 1. Reproductively capable nonnative oyster species in
6 Maryland waters, for purposes of fisheries restoration or any other purpose; and

7 2. Sterile nonnative species in Maryland, for purposes of the
8 development of aquaculture or any other purpose; and

9 (ii) [Proceed in accordance with] ~~TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE AS THE~~
10 ~~STUDY PROGRESSES, BE CONSISTENT WITH~~ the findings of the National Academy of
11 Sciences review of the Suminoe oyster.

12 (d) The Department shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with §
13 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the House Environmental Matters
14 Committee and the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:

15 (1) By December 1, 2002, an interim report on the status of ongoing
16 research and all interim findings available to the Department, including findings to
17 date of the National Academy of Sciences review of the Suminoe oyster; and

18 (2) By December 1, 2004, a final report on all findings available to date
19 from the National Academy of Sciences review and from studies conducted under this
20 Act.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 June 1, 2004.