By: **Delegate O'Donnell** Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2

Natural Resources - Aquaculture Operations - Exemptions

3 FOR the purpose of exempting aquaculture operations from certain harvesting

- 4 restrictions for wild stocks of fish; and generally relating to aquaculture
- 5 operations.

6 BY adding to

- 7 Article Natural Resources
- 8 Section 4-11A-03
- 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 10 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

- 12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 13

Article - Natural Resources

14 4-11A-03.

15 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, AQUACULTURE

16 OPERATIONS ARE EXEMPT FROM ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE AND REGULATIONS

17 ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS TITLE THAT ESTABLISH HARVESTING

- 18 RESTRICTIONS FOR WILD STOCKS OF FISH, INCLUDING:
- 19 (1) SEASON RESTRICTIONS;
- 20 (2) CATCH LIMITS;
- 21 (3) MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS;
- 22 (4) QUOTAS; AND
- 23 (5) METHOD OF HARVEST RESTRICTIONS.
- 24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 25 October 1, 2006.