

HOUSE BILL 1436

M1

8lr3120

By: **Delegates Weir, Boteler, Holmes, Impallaria, and Minnick**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2008

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Fishing Restrictions – Net Setting**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the distance that a person is prohibited from setting a net
4 within a certain distance in any direction of any other net; altering the method
5 used to measure the distance between nets for enforcement purposes; and
6 generally relating to fishing restrictions on the use of nets.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Natural Resources
9 Section 4–728(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 4–728.

16 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a person
17 may not set any net within [1,650] **300** feet in any direction of any other net,
18 **MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO EXISTING NETS OR LINE OF NETS FOR**
19 **ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES**, or any net of a total length of more than 1,500 feet,
20 including the net's leaders, hedges, or wings. In addition, a net may not be set at a
21 distance greater than one-fourth the distance across the bay, measured from the low
22 water mark.

23 (2) In the waters in the part of the Chesapeake Bay which lies
24 between a straight line drawn from Drum Point Lighthouse in Calvert County to Hog
25 Point in St. Mary's County, and a straight line drawn from Cove Point Lighthouse in

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Calvert County to Cedar Point Lighthouse in St. Mary's County, a person may not set
2 any kind of net:

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

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

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

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2008.