CHAPTER 482

(House Bill 1570)

AN ACT concerning

Fisheries Management – Anchored Fishing Nets – Buoy Markers

FOR the purpose of authorizing a person to use a buoy or other floating device that shows certain information to mark certain anchored fishing nets; <u>altering the information that is required to be marked on certain fishing gear</u>; and generally relating to fisheries management.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Natural Resources Section 4–710(e) Annotated Code of Maryland (2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

4 - 710.

(e) (1) A person may not set any anchored gill net or fyke or hoop net or any line of these nets which has a length more than one third the distance across the waters of the bay, sound, river, creek, cove, or inlet where it is set, or is set so that it impedes or obstructs navigation on or blocks in any way the main channel of the bay, sound, river, creek, cove or inlet. The outer end of the submerged gear of any nets referred to in this subsection shall be marked by means of a paddle [or board], A **BOARD, OR A BUOY OR OTHER FLOATING DEVICE** which shows the name, address and license number of the net owner.

(2) A person may not set an anchored gill net within 1200 feet of a pound or stake net, measured at right angles to the line of stakes.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, May 7, 2009.