

Chapter 219

(Senate Bill 84)

AN ACT concerning

Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission – Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission – Membership

FOR the purpose of expanding the maximum number of members of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission; requiring the composition of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission to reflect the geographic regions of the State where the commercial fishing industry is operating; staggering the terms for the membership of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission; expanding the membership of the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission; specifying the terms of the members of the commissions; and generally relating to the membership of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and Sport Fisheries Advisory Commissions in the Department of Natural Resources.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 4–204(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

4–204.

(a) (1) There is a Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission in the Department.

(2) The Commission is composed of up to ~~12~~ **15** members appointed and serving in accordance with the procedures adopted under § 1–102(c) of this article.

(3) **(I)** Up to ~~eleven~~ **14** commercial watermen and one member of the Sports Fisheries Advisory Commission shall comprise the Commission.

(II) THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS OF THE STATE WHERE THE COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY IS OPERATING.

(4) The term of a member is 2 years.

(5) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2010.

(6) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

(7) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

(b) (1) There is a Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission in the Department.

(2) The Commission shall provide the Department advice on recreational fisheries matters.

(3) The Commission is composed of ~~[12]~~ **15** members appointed and serving in accordance with the provisions of § 1-102(c) of this article. The experience and backgrounds of Commission members shall represent the diversified angling interests and waters of the State.

(4) (i) The term of a member is 4 years and a member may be reappointed.

(II) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2010.

~~[(ii)]~~ **(III)** At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

~~[(iii)]~~ **(IV)** A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That beginning with the term that began on July 22, 2009:

(1) the terms of five of the members of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission shall expire on June 30, 2011; and

(2) the terms of the remaining members shall expire on June 30, 2013.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(1) beginning with the term that began on July 20, 2009:

(i) the terms of six of the existing members of the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission shall expire on June 30, 2011; and

(ii) the terms of the remaining six existing members shall expire on June 30, 2013; and

(2) the initial terms of the new members appointed in accordance with § 4-204(b)(3) of the Natural Resources Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall expire June 30, 2013.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2010.