SENATE BILL 465

M2, E1
2lr0501
CF HB 393

By: **Senators Frosh, Benson, Conway, Forehand, King, Madaleno, Manno, Montgomery, Pinsky, Raskin, Rosapepe, Stone, and Young**
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2012
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Shark or Elasmobranch Fins – Prohibition on**
3 **Possession or Distribution**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from possessing, selling, offering for sale,
5 trading, or distributing a shark or other elasmobranch fin; establishing certain
6 civil penalties for violations of this Act; requiring the Department of Natural
7 Resources to adopt regulations to implement this Act; defining a certain term;
8 and generally relating to a prohibition against the possession or distribution of
9 a shark or other elasmobranch fin.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Natural Resources
12 Section 4–747
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Natural Resources**

18 **4–747.**

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "SHARK FIN" MEANS THE RAW, DRIED, OR
20 OTHERWISE PROCESSED DETACHED FIN OR TAIL OF A SHARK OR OTHER
21 ELASMOBRANCH.

22 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS, SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRADE, OR
23 DISTRIBUTE A SHARK FIN.

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1   **(C)   A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO THE**
2 **FOLLOWING CIVIL PENALTIES:**

3   **(1)   FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, A FINE NOT EXCEEDING $15,000;**

4   **(2)   FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, A FINE NOT EXCEEDING $35,000; OR**

5   **(3)   FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A FINE NOT**
6 **EXCEEDING $50,000.**

7   **(D)   THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT**
8 **THIS SECTION.**

9   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 June 1, 2012.