

HOUSE BILL 1528

M2

3lr3360

By: **Delegate O'Donnell**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 8, 2013

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Patuxent River – Drifting Gill Nets**

3 FOR the purpose of creating an exception to the prohibition against setting or hauling
4 a drifting gill net in certain areas of the Patuxent River by authorizing the
5 setting or hauling of a drifting gill net in certain areas of the river to catch
6 white perch; and generally relating to the prohibition against setting or hauling
7 a drifting gill net in certain areas of the Patuxent River.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Natural Resources
10 Section 4–730
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2012 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – Natural Resources**

16 4–730.

17 (a) A person may not set, nor construct any kind or description of net in the
18 Patuxent River from Queen Anne Bridge to the mouth of the river, within 1,500 feet in
19 every direction from any other net, without the permission of the owner of the other
20 net. In addition, a person may not set, nor construct, any net more than 425 feet in
21 length, including the net's leaders, hedges, or wings, below a straight line from
22 Holland's Cliffs across the river to a point on the shore directly opposite Holland's
23 Cliffs, or more than 150 feet in length including the net's leaders, hedges, or wings,
24 above the straight line from Holland's Cliffs. The provisions of this subsection do not
25 apply to floating gill nets or seines.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) A person may not set or haul any seine or gill net in any creek, cove or
2 tributary of the Patuxent River if the mouth of the creek or tributary is less than 200
3 feet wide.

4 (c) **(1) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
5 **SUBSECTION, A person may not set or haul any drifting gill net in the Patuxent River**
6 **south of the Patuxent River Bridge or in any creek, cove, or tributary of the river south**
7 **of the Patuxent River Bridge at any time.**

8 **(2) A PERSON MAY SET OR HAUL A DRIFTING GILL NET IN THE**
9 **PATUXENT RIVER SOUTH OF THE PATUXENT RIVER/BENEDICT BRIDGE OR IN**
10 **ANY CREEK, COVE, OR TRIBUTARY OF THE RIVER SOUTH OF THE PATUXENT**
11 **RIVER/BENEDICT BRIDGE TO CATCH WHITE PERCH.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2013.