

# SENATE BILL 592

M2  
SB 465/12 – EHE

3lr2670  
CF HB 1148

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By: **Senators Frosh, Benson, Forehand, King, Madaleno, Manno, Montgomery, Pinsky, Raskin, Rosapepe, Stone, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 29, 2013

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Shark Fins – Restriction on Possession or Distribution**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from possessing, selling, offering for sale,  
4 trading, or distributing a shark fin; exempting a certain person, museum,  
5 college, or university from the prohibition against possessing a shark fin under  
6 certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to adopt  
7 regulations to implement this Act; defining certain terms; and generally  
8 relating to a restriction on the possession or distribution of a shark fin.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 4–747  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2012 Replacement Volume)

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

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 **4–747.**

18 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE**  
19 **MEANINGS INDICATED.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           (2) (I) “SHARK” MEANS ANY SPECIES OF THE SUBCLASS  
2 ELASMOBRANCHII.

3                   (II) “SHARK” DOES NOT INCLUDE SMOOTH-HOUNDS, SPINY  
4 DOGFISH, OR SPECIES IN THE SUPERORDER BATOIDEA.

5           (3) “SHARK FIN” MEANS THE RAW, DRIED, OR OTHERWISE  
6 PROCESSED DETACHED FIN OR TAIL OF A SHARK.

7           (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS  
8 SUBSECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS, SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRADE, OR  
9 DISTRIBUTE A SHARK FIN.

10                   (2) A PERSON MAY POSSESS A SHARK FIN IF:

11                           (I) THE PERSON HOLDS THE APPROPRIATE STATE OR  
12 FEDERAL LICENSE OR PERMIT AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OR LANDING OF A  
13 SHARK FOR RECREATIONAL OR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES;

14                           (II) THE SHARK FIN IS TAKEN FROM A SHARK THAT THE  
15 PERSON HAS TAKEN OR LANDED; AND

16                           (III) THE SHARK FIN IS TAKEN IN A MANNER CONSISTENT  
17 WITH THE PERSON’S LICENSE.

18           (3) A MUSEUM, COLLEGE, OR UNIVERSITY MAY POSSESS A SHARK  
19 FIN IF THE SHARK FIN IS USED SOLELY FOR DISPLAY OR RESEARCH PURPOSES.

20           (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT  
21 THIS SECTION.

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