

BY: Environmental Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 118

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Task Force to Study the Impact of Ocean Acidification on State Waters”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “acidification” in line 9 and substitute “establishing the Task Force to Study the Impact of Ocean Acidification on State Waters; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to analyze certain information and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Impact of Ocean Acidification on State Waters”; and strike in their entirety lines 10 through 14, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with “That” in line 16 on page 1 down through “Department.” in line 29 on page 2 and substitute “That:

(a) There is a Task Force to Study the Impact of Ocean Acidification on State Waters.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary’s designee;

(2) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary’s designee; and

(3) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(Over)

- (i) one representative of the State's aquaculture industry;
 - (ii) one representative of the Maryland Watermen's Association;
 - (iii) one representative of the National Aquarium, Baltimore;
 - (iv) one representative of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science; and
 - (v) one representative of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.
- (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- (d) The Department of Natural Resources shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- (e) A member of the Task Force:
 - (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
 - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (f) The Task Force shall:
 - (1) analyze the best available science regarding ocean acidification and the potential effects of acidification on the ecology of State waters and on State fisheries; and
 - (2) make recommendations regarding potential strategies to mitigate the effects of acidification on State waters and on State fisheries.

(g) On or before January 1, 2015, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.”.

On page 2, in line 31, strike “October 1, 2014” and substitute “July 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect”.