

HOUSE BILL 785

M2

5lr1655
CF SB 666

By: **Delegates Flanagan, Frush, Lafferty, Mautz, O'Donnell, and Szeliga**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Recreational Fishing Licenses – Duration and Expiration Date**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the expiration date for and, under certain circumstances, the
4 duration of certain recreational fishing licenses; requiring the Department of
5 Natural Resources to establish by regulation a term for a certain recreational fishing
6 license; requiring the Department to proportionally prorate the annual license fees
7 for certain recreational fishing licenses; repealing a certain obsolete provision of law;
8 and generally relating to the expiration date for and duration of recreational fishing
9 licenses.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Natural Resources
12 Section 4–210.1(a), 4–216(a), 4–604(b), and 4–745(a)(1)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Natural Resources
17 Section 4–210.1(e), 4–216(c), 4–604(h)(1), and 4–745(a)(3) and (d)(1)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Natural Resources**

23 4–210.1.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) A person providing fishing guide services for compensation to a person fishing
2 in nontidal freshwater or areas of tidal water designated in subsection (f) of this section for
3 game and freshwater fish shall obtain a freshwater fishing guide license.

4 (e) [Beginning January 1, 2000 the] **THE** Department may issue a freshwater
5 fishing guide license which shall be valid for [not more than 1 year and shall expire on
6 December 31 of each year following the date of issuance] **A TERM ESTABLISHED BY THE**
7 **DEPARTMENT IN REGULATION.**

8 4-216.

9 (a) The Department shall establish a resident consolidated senior sport fishing
10 license, to be issued to residents of Maryland beginning in the calendar year in which they
11 attain the age of 65.

12 (c) A resident consolidated senior sport fishing license shall be valid for [not more
13 than] 1 year [and shall expire on December 31] **FOLLOWING THE DATE OF ISSUANCE.**

14 4-604.

15 (b) Any person 16 years old or older shall secure an angler's license to fish in the
16 nontidal waters of the State. An angler's license entitles the holder to fish in the nontidal
17 waters of the State only during the open season.

18 (h) (1) Every angler's license shall [expire on December 31 of each] **BE VALID**
19 **FOR 1** year following the date of issuance.

20 4-745.

21 (a) (1) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section and § 4-217
22 of this title, a person may not fish for finfish in the Chesapeake Bay or in its tributaries up
23 to tidal boundaries or in State waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays
24 and their tributaries without first obtaining a Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing
25 license or registration issued under subsection (d)(3) of this section and possessing evidence
26 of the license or registration.

27 (3) [Every] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D)(1) OF THIS**
28 **SECTION, EVERY** Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license and registration shall
29 be valid for [not more than] 1 year [and shall expire on December 31] **FOLLOWING THE**
30 **DATE OF ISSUANCE.**

31 (d) (1) The Department may provide by regulation for issuance of a special
32 charter boat license that **SHALL BE EFFECTIVE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 YEAR AND**
33 **SHALL EXPIRE ON AUGUST 31 AND THAT** would be valid for all individuals on a charter
34 boat operated by a licensed fishing guide in tidal waters of the State. The fee shall be:

- 1 (i) For 6 fishermen or less \$240.
- 2 (ii) For 7 or more fishermen \$290.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Natural
4 Resources shall proportionally prorate the annual license fee for any fishing license for
5 which the duration of the license is shortened under this Act.

6 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2015.