## SENATE BILL 837

M2 6lr3557 CF HB 915

By: Senator Waugh

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 15, 2016

CHAPTER

1 AN ACT concerning

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## Crabs - Harvest Times - Trotlines and Crab Pots

- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to adopt regulations 4 that provide the option to a tidal fish licensee authorized to catch crabs using 5 trotlines and crab pots to work certain hours during a certain time period; requiring 6 a licensee who chooses a certain hours-of-work option to notify the Department of 7 that choice by a certain date; prohibiting a licensee who chooses a certain 8 hours-of-work option from changing that option until the following license year; 9 requiring a licensee who chooses a certain hours-of-work option to affix a certain 10 display on the licensee's vessel signifying the choice of that option; and generally 11 relating to harvest times for crabs using trotlines and crab pots.
- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 13 Article Natural Resources
- 14 Section 4–803
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)
- 17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

20 4-803.

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## EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

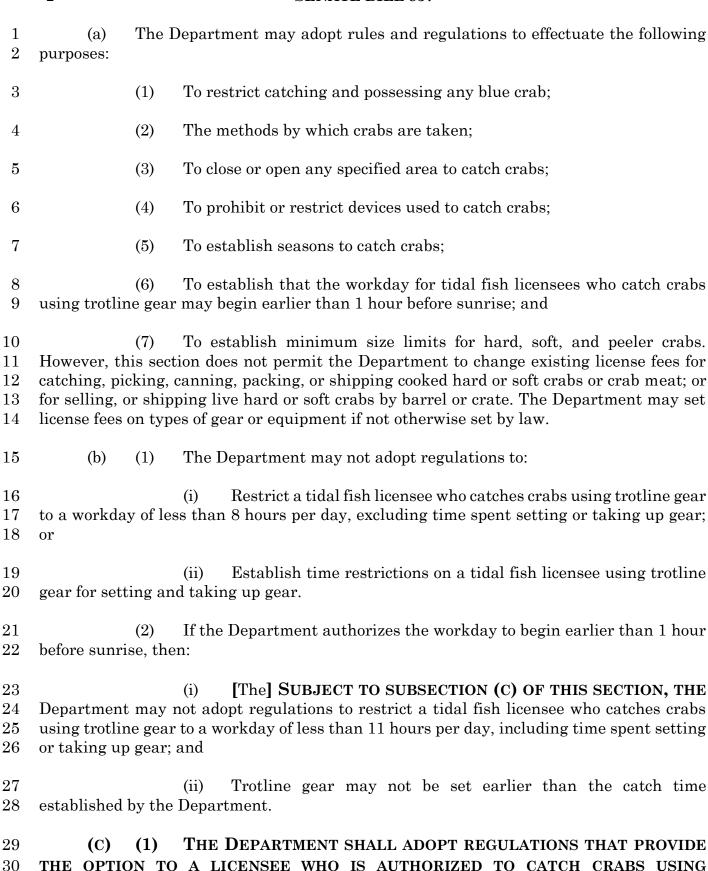
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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

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TROTLINES OR CRAB POTS TO WORK THE FOLLOWING HOURS FROM JULY 15

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15 OF ANY YEAR, INCLUSIVE:

1 2 3	(I) FOR A LICENSEE WHO USES TROTLINE GEAR, HOURS THAT BEGIN 2 HOURS BEFORE SUNRISE AND END 8 HOURS AFTER SUNRISE, NOT INCLUDING TIME SPENT SETTING OR TAKING UP GEAR; OR
4 5	(II) FOR A LICENSEE WHO USES CRAB POTS, HOURS THAT BEGIN 1.5 HOURS BEFORE SUNRISE AND END 6.5 HOURS AFTER SUNRISE.
6 7 8	(2) (I) A LICENSEE WHO CHOOSES THE OPTION OF WORKING THE EARLIER HOURS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF THAT CHOICE BY JULY 1 OF THE LICENSE YEAR.
9 10 11	(II) AFTER A LICENSEE CHOOSES THE EARLY-HOURS OPTION FOR THE LICENSE YEAR, THE LICENSEE MAY NOT CHANGE OPTIONS UNTIL THE FOLLOWING LICENSE YEAR.
12 13 14	(3) A LICENSEE WHO CHOOSES THE EARLY-HOURS OPTION SHALL AFFIX A DISPLAY ON THE LICENSEE'S VESSEL IN A FORM AND MANNER DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SIGNIFY THE CHOICE OF THE EARLY-HOURS OPTION.
15 16 17 18 19 20	[(c)] (D) The Department's regulations may not become effective under this section until the Department first holds public hearings. The Department shall advertise the time, place, and purpose of the hearings in one newspaper of general daily circulation in the State, and at least in one newspaper circulated in the affected region of each county whose waters may be directly affected by the proposed regulations for 2 successive weeks in advance of the hearings.
21 22	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.
	Approved:
	Governor.
	President of the Senate.
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.