

# HOUSE BILL 1339

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7lr3153  
CF SB 554

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By: **Delegates Jacobs, Arentz, Mautz, and Otto**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2017

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Gill Nets – Stretched Mesh Size**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~establishing a certain maximum mesh size and~~ altering a certain  
4 maximum stretched mesh size for gill nets used in the Chesapeake Bay and its  
5 tributaries; and generally relating to maximum stretched mesh sizes for gill nets in  
6 the Chesapeake Bay.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 4–710(c)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 4–710.

16 (c) (1) A person may not fish with any net whose size of stretched mesh,  
17 allowing a reasonable tolerance for shrinkage, is less than the following: pound net, 1 1/2  
18 inches; haul seine, 1 1/2 inches; gill net, 2 1/2 inches; fyke or hoop net, 1 1/2 inches.

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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) Any hedging or lead attached to a fish trap, fyke net, or pound net shall  
2 be constructed of materials which have meshes having a twine size of #12 or larger.

3 (3) In the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, a person may not set or fish  
4 any gill net ~~whose size of stretched mesh is more than 7 inches~~ ~~THAT HAS:~~

5 ~~(I) A MESH SIZE EXCEEDING 7 INCHES; OR~~

6 ~~(II) A STRETCHED MESH SIZE EXCEEDING 7.5 INCHES.~~

7 (4) This subsection does not apply to catching eels with a net.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 October 1, 2017.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.