

# HOUSE BILL 1485

M2

8lr2296

---

By: **Delegate Fisher**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Shellfish – Harvesting by Wharf Owners**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the distance from certain piers, wharves, or other structures  
4 in certain counties within which the owner has exclusive use of the area for growing  
5 oysters in a certain manner; altering the manner by which oysters may be grown and  
6 harvested in proximity to certain piers, wharves, or other structures; making certain  
7 clarifying changes; and generally relating to the harvesting of shellfish by owners of  
8 piers, wharves, or other structures.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 4–11A–17  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 4–11A–17.

18 The owner of any **PIER**, wharf, or other structure constructed on or about the water  
19 and approved by the corps of engineers, shall have exclusive use, for the purpose of growing  
20 and harvesting shellfish, of the area:

21 (1) Below the owner's **PIER**, wharf, or structure; and

22 (2) In Calvert, Howard, St. Mary's, and Talbot counties only, within [5] **10**  
23 feet of the owner's **PIER**, wharf, or structure, **FOR** oysters grown in trays, baskets, or

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 containers that are attached [to a private pier or wharf] by lines or ropes that are the  
2 property of the owner of the pier [or], wharf, OR STRUCTURE TO:

3 (I) THE PRIVATE PIER, WHARF, OR STRUCTURE; OR

4 (II) ANOTHER OYSTER TRAY, BASKET, OR CONTAINER THAT IS  
5 ATTACHED TO THE PRIVATE PIER, WHARF, OR STRUCTURE.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
7 1, 2018.