

Chapter 587

(Senate Bill 882)

AN ACT concerning

Recreational Striped Bass Fishery – Study on Harvest Data

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to conduct a study on methods of obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery; requiring the study to examine certain issues relevant to obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery; requiring the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the study on methods of obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The Department of Natural Resources shall conduct a study on methods of obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery.

(b) The study shall:

(1) examine the benefits that more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery would have on the scientific and management capabilities of the Department with respect to the entire striped bass fishery;

(2) consider the types of information and level of detail that would be most beneficial for the Department to obtain for its scientific and management duties and capabilities;

(3) consider the advantages, disadvantages, and feasibility of implementing various methods for obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery;

(4) recommend methods for obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery; and

(5) recommend any enforcement measures that would need to be implemented to support any methods recommended under item (4) of this subsection.

(c) On or before December 1, 2020, the Department shall report its findings and recommendations with respect to obtaining more accurate harvest data for the recreational striped bass fishery to the Governor and, in accordance with to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2021, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.