

HOUSE BILL 875

M2

2lr2930

By: **Delegate Cox**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hunting and Fishing – Recreational License Fees – Moratorium**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to waive certain annual
4 hunting license fees for State residents for a certain license year; requiring the
5 Department to waive a certain portion of the annual fee for certain recreational
6 fishing licenses that are effective during a certain time period; requiring the
7 Department to rebate certain overpayments of annual recreational fishing license
8 fees to the license holders; and generally relating to a moratorium on annual
9 recreational hunting and fishing license fees.

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

12 (a) The Department of Natural Resources shall waive the annual hunting license
13 fees established under § 10–301 of the Natural Resources Article for a State resident for
14 the 2022–2023 hunting year that begins August 1, 2022 and runs through July 31, 2023.

15 (b) (1) The Department of Natural Resources shall waive the annual fee for a
16 State resident for the portion of a license year that falls between August 1, 2022 and July
17 31, 2023, inclusive, for the following recreational fishing licenses:

18 (i) the angler’s license issued under § 4–604 of the Natural
19 Resources Article;

20 (ii) the Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license issued
21 under § 4–745 of the Natural Resources Article; and

22 (iii) the resident consolidated senior sport fishing license issued
23 under § 4–216 of the Natural Resources Article.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) For recreational fishing licenses subject to this subsection and issued
2 before August 1, 2022, the Department of Natural Resources shall:

3 (i) proportionally prorate the annual license fee based on the
4 amount of time the license is to be effective during the period between August 1, 2022 and
5 July 31, 2023, inclusive; and

6 (ii) rebate any overpayment to the license holder.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
8 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 2 months and, at the end of July
9 31, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
10 abrogated and of no further force and effect.