

SENATE BILL 537

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CF 2lr2647

By: **Senators Carozza, Hershey, Simonaire, and Bailey**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Natural Resources – Shrimp Fishery Regulations – Clarification**

3 FOR the purpose of clarifying the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to,
4 notwithstanding certain provisions of law, adopt regulations governing any aspect of
5 the shrimp fishery and establishing and implementing a pilot program related to
6 fishing for shrimp; and generally relating to the shrimp fishery.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 4–904

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 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 4–904.

16 (a) A person may not catch shrimp for commercial purposes unless the person
17 first obtains a license from the Department.

18 (b) (1) **[The] NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE,**
19 **THE** Department may adopt regulations:

20 (i) Governing any aspect of the shrimp fishery; and

21 (ii) Establishing and implementing a pilot program related to fishing
22 for shrimp.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) Regulations adopted under paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection may authorize the Department to establish for the shrimp fishery by public notice:

3 (i) Closed areas;

4 (ii) Catch limits;

5 (iii) Seasons;

6 (iv) Size limits;

7 (v) Gear restrictions; and

8 (vi) Reporting requirements.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2022.