This departmental bill increases the term of a member of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission (TFAC) from two to four years. The bill takes effect February 1, 2023, and applies only to members appointed on or after February 1, 2023.

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not directly affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

**Current Law:** TFAC is established within DNR and is made up predominantly of commercial watermen, along with one member of the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission (SFAC) and one representative of the aquaculture industry in the State. The term of a member of the commission is two years.

**Background:** DNR advises that the bill aligns the length of the terms of the members of two of the department’s main advisory groups on fisheries issues, TFAC (commercial
fisheries) and SFAC (recreational fisheries). The length of the term of a member of SFAC is four years. DNR indicates that the longer term will also allow TFAC members more time to familiarize themselves with issues prior to their term ending.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Natural Resources; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**
- First Reader - January 10, 2022
- Third Reader - March 16, 2022
- Revised - Amendment(s) - March 16, 2022

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission - Membership Term - Alteration

BILL NUMBER: SB 190

PREPARED BY: Lisa Eutsler, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

_X_ WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

___ WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS