

Chapter 593

(House Bill 562)

AN ACT concerning

Special Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Fishing License – Nonresidents – License Fee

FOR the purpose of increasing the license fee for a special Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license for certain license applicants; and generally relating to the special Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 4–745(d)(2)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2023 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

4–745.

(d) (2) (i) The Department may provide by regulation for issuance of an annual special Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license, which when permanently affixed to a boat registered in any state shall authorize any person on the boat to fish for finfish in the Chesapeake Bay or in its tributaries up to tidal boundaries or in State waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and their tributaries, except that such a license may not be used on a boat that has been hired to take such persons fishing.

(ii) The annual fee for this special license shall be:

- 1. **FOR A RESIDENT APPLICANT..... \$50.**
- 2. **FOR A NONRESIDENT APPLICANT.....\$100.**

(iii) If a boat owner purchases the special license under this paragraph, the boat owner may fish anywhere in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries or the State waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and their tributaries, whether the boat owner is fishing in the owner’s boat, in another person’s boat, on land, or elsewhere. The Department shall issue a complimentary Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license to the boat owner who purchases a special license under this paragraph. If a boat to which the special license is affixed has more than one owner, then

only the individual applicant who signs the application for the special license shall be entitled to a complimentary Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license under this paragraph.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.