

WHEREAS, This lack of complete and systematic knowledge on the fish populations leads to a great variety of contradictory opinions concerning the best methods for maintaining fish populations and on the necessity for protecting particular species of fish; and

WHEREAS, Fish are taken from the tidewaters by licensed nets, by a great number of unlicensed nets and by many sports fishermen using hook-and-line; and

WHEREAS, Existing published information on the fish in the tidal waters of Maryland fails to provide a clear and comprehensive view of the populations of the several species found in Maryland waters; and

WHEREAS, Existing published information fails to show what species of fish in Maryland waters require special protection, or what form this protection should take; now therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Department of Research and Education of the Board of Natural Resources be and it is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and publish in simple readable language a report on the status of the fish populations of tidewater Maryland, past and present, the effect of the several licensed and unlicensed gears on said populations and possible trends in these populations, together with an evaluation of the fishery conditions and recommendations for improving these conditions as they affect commercial and sports fisheries; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this report shall be distributed to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 1954.