

CHAPTER 484

(House Bill 608)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 714 of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", to prohibit the taking of soft shell clams by any means in a certain area in the waters of Queen Anne's County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 714 of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

714.

(a). In the waters of Queen Anne's County it shall be unlawful to take or catch or attempt to take or catch soft shell clams with a hydraulic or mechanical dredge or with any other type of gear upon any natural oyster bar as defined in the first paragraph of Section 696 (i) of this article. It shall also be unlawful to take or catch, or attempt to take or catch, soft shell clams by such means, or by any other means:

(b). **[(1)]** Within 50 yards of any commercially productive oyster tonging area defined on the charts of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries, or as defined under Section 696 (i) of this article, or

(c). **[(2)]** Within 500 yards of any occupied duck blind, where decoys are set out, during the legal duck hunting season, or

(d). **[(3)]** Within 150 feet of any bulkhead, wharf, pier, structure or appurtenance constructed or erected in, out in, over or under any of the waters of this State under or by permit of the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, or

(e). **[(4)]** Within 1000 feet of any public bathing beach during the months of May, June, July, August and September of any year, or

(f). **[(5)]** Within 50 yards of any private bathing beaches, during the months of May, June, July, August and September; provided that the private bathing beaches shall be staked and marked by the owners thereof upon which shall be lettered "bathing beach" of a readily discernible size, or as may be required by any rule or regulation of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries; provided, however, that the linear measurement along the shore line shall not exceed a distance of 100 yards for each landowner, or

(g). **[(6)]** Within 50 feet of the mean low water mark of any shore line.

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.