

subtitle "Oysters and Clams", to follow immediately after Section 708 (aa) thereof, providing that if the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs ascertains that an area leased for the cultivation of oysters is affected by certain environmental factors which destroy or seriously impede the culture and growth of oysters and threaten the potential of the area or the continued production of oysters, the Department may reduce or abate the annual rent therefor.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Section 708 (bb) be and it is hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", subtitle "Oysters and Clams", to follow immediately after Section 708 (aa) thereof, and to read as follows:

708.

(bb) If the Department ascertains that any leased area is affected by environmental factors which destroy or seriously impede the culture and growth of oysters and threaten the potential of the area for the continued production of oysters, it may reduce or abate the annual rent therefor in such amount and for such period as to the Department seems equitable and reasonable in view of the degree of damage.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966.

Approved April 29, 1966.

CHAPTER 221

(Senate Bill 150)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 11A of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments", subtitle "I. Crimes and Punishments", subheading "Assault on Child", to increase the age of children the malicious mistreating of whom becomes a felony, providing more comprehensive requirements for reporting said malicious conduct to law enforcement officers, defining terms, requiring reports, investigations and making other general provisions to facilitate compliance with and enforcement of this law regarding the assaulting of children within the State.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 11A of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "I. Crimes and Punishments", subheading "Assault on Child", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

11A.

(a) Any parent, adoptive parent or other person who has the permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for the supervision of a minor child under the age of [fourteen] sixteen years who maliciously beats, strikes or otherwise mistreats such