

**CHAPTER 197**  
**(House Bill 168)**

AN ACT concerning

**Natural Resources - Tree Experts - Licensing**

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "tree expert" to require a person who performs certain work relating to trees to be licensed and subject to certain regulations by the Department of Natural Resources; establishing that certain persons are not tree experts for certain purposes; making technical changes; and generally relating to tree experts.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section 5-415, 5-417, 5-418, 5-419, 5-420, 5-421, and 5-423

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section 5-416 and 5-422

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

**Article - Natural Resources**

5-415.

(a) In this part, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Licensed tree expert" means a person who has received from the Department a license displaying [his] THE PERSON'S qualifications to practice as a tree expert.

(c) (1) "Tree expert" means a person who [holds himself out as being] REPRESENTS TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE PERSON IS skilled in the science of tree care OR REMOVAL and who, whether in [his own] THE business OF THE PERSON or as the employee of another person and whether under the title of arborist, tree specialist, tree surgeon, tree expert, or otherwise, engages in the business or work of the treatment, [and] care, [of] OR REMOVAL OF trees for compensation by:

(+) (I) [making] MAKING diagnoses, prescribing, and supervising the treatment for trees; OR

(+) (II) TRIMMING, PRUNING, THINNING, CABLING, SHAPING, REMOVING, OR REDUCING THE CROWN OF TREES.