

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000 and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 1999.

Approved May 11, 2000.

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**CHAPTER 473**

**(House Bill 1305)**

AN ACT concerning

**Ballast Water Management - Reporting and Prohibition**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt certain guidelines relating to vessel ballast water management; requiring certain ~~vessel operators~~ persons to complete and return a certain form relating to vessel ballast water management; specifying that certain violations are crimes, subject to certain penalties including fines and imprisonment for certain periods; stating findings of the General Assembly; defining certain terms; requesting the Governor to coordinate certain activities and meet with certain persons for certain purposes; and generally relating to ballast water management in waters of the State.

BY adding to

Article - Environment

Section 5-5A-01 through 5-5A-08 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5A. Ballast Water Management"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Environment

Section 5-1301

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

**Article - Environment**

**SUBTITLE 5A. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.**

5-5A-01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.