

Fisheries Service Legislative Summary 2016 – 1/22/16

House Bill 51 Natural Resources – Aquaculture Coordinating Council – Membership (Environment and Transportation)

Senate Bill 51 adds two members to the membership of the Aquaculture Coordinating Council.

House Bill 62 Natural Resources – Fishing and Hunting Licenses (Environment and Transportation)

This bill proposes to remove or alter antiquated text that currently makes it legally not possible to allow an electronic form of licensure for activities licensed under the Natural Resources Article. Removal or alterations to fisheries and wildlife statutes are required in order to allow the Department to proceed with this process.

House Bill 63 Natural Resources – Fishing – Regulation and Use of Commercial Finfish Trotlines (Environment and Transportation)

House Bill 63 authorizes the Department to write clear rules for the use of finfish trotline gear that will allow commercial watermen to target invasive blue and flathead catfish while also addressing concerns about the gear possibly interacting with spawning striped bass. This bill adds finfish trotlines to the list of commercial gears the Department may regulate, and clearly states that the restriction of two hooks per line does not apply to finfish trotlines.

Senate Bill 51 Natural Resources – Aquaculture Coordinating Council – Membership (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)

Senate Bill 51 adds two members to the membership of the Aquaculture Coordinating Council.

Senate Bill 67 State Government – Administrative Procedure Act – Effective Date of Adopted Regulations (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)

This bill requires that all state regulations become effective on certain dates based on the submission of the regulation for publication in the Maryland Register. The bill exempts the Department of Natural Resources.

Senate Bill 188 (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)

The bill changes a cap for income tax credit for oyster shell recycling.

Senate Bill 225 (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)

The bill extends complimentary lifetime licenses to Purple Heart Award recipients.