

HOUSE BILL 512

M2

4lr2738

By: **Delegate Boyce**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Fish and Fisheries – Reporting Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain persons licensed or regulated by the Department of
4 Natural Resources to submit reports in accordance with regulations adopted by the
5 Secretary of Natural Resources; and generally relating to fish and fisheries reporting
6 requirements.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Natural Resources
9 Section 4–206
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 4–206.

16 (a) **(1)** The Department shall audit the books of any person who packs or deals
17 in fish resources within the jurisdiction of the Department including anyone who catches
18 and ships directly to market.

19 **(2)** The Department audit shall be conducted to determine the quantity of
20 resources caught and any other data needed for reporting and accounting to State officials.

21 (b) **(1)** Every person engaged in the business of packing or dealing in any fish
22 resource within the Department’s jurisdiction shall keep accurate books, statements, and
23 accounts showing every detail of the business.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2)** Every book, statement, and account shall be open for the Department
2 to inspect at reasonable hours.

3 **(3)** Every person engaged in the business of packing or dealing in any fish
4 resource within the Department's jurisdiction shall [make] **SUBMIT** any report the
5 Department requires [on forms the Department prescribes] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
6 **REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY.**

7 (c) Every person the Department licenses to catch the fish resource shall [make]
8 **SUBMIT** any report the Department requires [on forms the Department provides] **IN**
9 **ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY.**

10 (d) **(1)** An officer or employee of any department or unit of the Executive
11 Branch of State government may not divulge or use in any manner information contained
12 in any report submitted pursuant to the provisions of this section that would reveal the
13 income of any person submitting the report.

14 **(2)** This section does not prohibit the publication of statistics classified to
15 prevent the identification of particular reports and items of them or prohibit inspection of
16 reports and records by any official or employee of the Executive Branch having a proper
17 interest in them.

18 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall take effect July
19 1, 2024.