

HOUSE BILL 1134

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1lr1731
CF SB 318

By: **Delegate Carey**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2021

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Fishing and Hunting Rights**

3 FOR the purpose of stating certain findings of the General Assembly related to fishing and
4 hunting; establishing that it is the intent of the General Assembly that residents of
5 the State have a right to fish and to hunt subject to certain regulations and
6 restrictions; and generally relating to the right to fish and hunt.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 4–103

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Natural Resources

14 Section 10–102

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Natural Resources**

20 **4–103.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

(1) FISHING IS A VALUED PART OF THE STATE'S CULTURAL AND SOCIAL HERITAGE THAT PROVIDES UNIQUE RECREATIONAL BENEFITS TO RESIDENTS OF THE STATE; AND

(2) FISHING PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE STATE'S ECONOMY BY CONTRIBUTING TO TAX REVENUES AND EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORTS THE CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE'S FISHERIES, NATURAL AREAS, AND WATER RESOURCES.

(B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT RESIDENTS OF THE STATE HAVE A RIGHT TO FISH SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS UNDER LAWS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTS.

10-102.

(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

(1) HUNTING IS A VALUED PART OF THE STATE'S CULTURAL AND SOCIAL HERITAGE THAT PROVIDES UNIQUE RECREATIONAL BENEFITS TO RESIDENTS OF THE STATE; AND

(2) HUNTING PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE STATE'S ECONOMY BY CONTRIBUTING TO TAX REVENUES AND EMPLOYMENT AND, THROUGH THE RECEIPT OF FEDERAL FUNDS, SUPPORTS THE CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE'S WILDLIFE, NATURAL AREAS, AND RELATED RESOURCES.

(B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT RESIDENTS OF THE STATE HAVE A RIGHT TO HUNT SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS UNDER LAWS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.