

# HOUSE BILL 1238

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CF SB 10

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By: **Delegates Hornberger, Arikan, S. Johnson, McComas, and Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2023

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Natural Resources – Documents – Digital or Electronic Issuance**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the requirement that the Department of Natural Resources  
4 make available and issue certain licenses and stamps in a digital or electronic  
5 format; and generally relating to the digital or electronic issuance of documents by  
6 the Department of Natural Resources.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 1–403.1

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 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 1–403.1.

16 (a) **(1)** [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**  
17 **SUBSECTION, THE** Department shall make available and, on request, issue any license  
18 [or], stamp, **PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATE** authorized under [§§ 4–604,  
19 4–614, 4–745, or 10–301(g) of] this article in a digital or electronic format.

20 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO ISSUE THE FOLLOWING**  
21 **LICENSES, STAMPS, PERMITS, REGISTRATIONS, OR CERTIFICATES IN A DIGITAL OR**  
22 **ELECTRONIC FORMAT:**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1                   (I)    A CHARTER BOAT LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 4-745(D)(1) OF  
2 THIS ARTICLE;
- 3                   (II)   A SPECIAL CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL SPORT FISHING  
4 LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 4-745(D)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE;
- 5                   (III)  A CERTIFICATE OF BOAT NUMBER ISSUED UNDER §  
6 8-712(D) OF THIS ARTICLE;
- 7                   (IV)  A HULL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ISSUED UNDER § 8-711  
8 OF THIS ARTICLE;
- 9                   (V)    A VESSEL STICKER ISSUED UNDER § 8-712.1(D) OF THIS  
10 ARTICLE;
- 11                  (VI)  A VESSEL CERTIFICATE OF TITLE ISSUED UNDER § 8-715 OF  
12 THIS ARTICLE;
- 13                  (VII) A HISTORICAL WATERCRAFT IDENTIFICATION PLAQUE  
14 ISSUED UNDER § 8-737(C) OF THIS ARTICLE;
- 15                  (VIII) AN ORV REGISTRATION STICKER ISSUED UNDER  
16 DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS;
- 17                  (IX)  A RECREATIONAL CRABBING BOATING DECAL ISSUED  
18 UNDER DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS;
- 19                  (X)    A CRABBING CHARTER DECAL ISSUED UNDER  
20 DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS;
- 21                  (XI)  A CONTROLLED WATER SKI STICKER ISSUED UNDER  
22 DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS;
- 23                  (XII) A DEEP CREEK LAKE BUFFER STRIP USE PERMIT ISSUED  
24 UNDER DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS; AND
- 25                  (XIII) A PERSONAL WATERCRAFT STICKER ISSUED UNDER  
26 DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.

27           (b)   (1)    Except as provided under [paragraph (2)] PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)  
28 of this subsection, an individual may satisfy any requirement under this article to possess  
29 or display a license [or], stamp, PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATE issued under  
30 [§§ 4-604, 4-614, 4-745, or 10-301(g) of] this article by possessing or displaying the  
31 document in a digital or electronic format as provided by the Department.

1           (2) [An annual special Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license  
2 shall be permanently affixed to a boat in accordance with § 4-745(d)(2) of this article]  
3 **PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A LICENSE, STAMP,  
4 PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATE LISTED IN SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS  
5 SECTION.**

6           (3) **NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN  
7 INDIVIDUAL IS STILL REQUIRED TO ATTACH, AFFIX, OR DISPLAY NUMBERS,  
8 STICKERS, OR DECALS ASSOCIATED WITH A LICENSE, STAMP, PERMIT,  
9 REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATE ON A VEHICLE, VESSEL, DOCK, OR GEAR AS  
10 REQUIRED UNDER THIS ARTICLE OR DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.**

11           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if the Department of Natural  
12 Resources cannot issue certain licenses, stamps, permits, registrations, or certificates in a  
13 digital or electronic format because of federal restrictions, it is the intent of the General  
14 Assembly that the Department shall issue those licenses, stamps, permits, registrations,  
15 or certificates in a digital or electronic format whenever the federal government eliminates  
16 those restrictions.

17           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
18 1, 2024.