

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 6222



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by: REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING AQUACULTURE IN THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to: (1) Reduce the minimum 2 size, from three inches to two and one-half inches long for the taking of 3 farm-raised eastern oysters; (2) expand oyster shell recycling efforts in 4 the state by reforming the permitting system to establish shell recycling 5 operations; (3) create a program through the Bureau of Aquaculture in 6 the Department of Agriculture to increase black, indigenous and people 7 of color farmers in shellfishing; (4) support the growth of seaweed 8 cultivation in the state; (5) study the Noank Aquaculture Cooperative as 9 a model for shellfishing; (6) change a commercial landing vessel 10 operator's license to a commercial vessel landing license; (7) introduce 11 special licensing for unregulated species and direct sales at docks; and 12 (8) establish a tax credit of two hundred fifty dollars for each restaurant 13 that participates in a shell recycling program.

Statement of Purpose:

To support and expand aquaculture in the state.