

2002 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 297

Offered January 9, 2002

Prefiled January 8, 2002

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 28.2-705.1, relating to the protection of certain female crabs; penalty.

Patron—Chichester

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 28.2-705.1 as follows:

§ 28.2-705.1. Restriction on catching, possessing, or selling female crabs; penalty.

A. It is unlawful for any person to catch, hold, possess, offer for sale, or sell any female crab bearing eggs visible thereon or any female crab from which the egg pouch, sponge, or bunion has been removed.

B. It shall not be a violation of subsection A if such crabs are unintentionally caught and immediately returned to the water while still alive.

C. Any person who violates any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

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