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By: **Calvert County Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2003  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
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CHAPTER 279

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert County - Agricultural Land Preservation Program - General**  
3 **Obligation Installment Purchase Agreements - Maximum Aggregate**  
4 **Purchase Price**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing and empowering~~ increasing the maximum aggregate  
6 purchase price of general obligation installment purchase agreements that the  
7 County Commissioners of Calvert County, from time to time, are authorized and  
8 empowered to enter into ~~installment purchase agreements for an aggregate~~  
9 ~~purchase price of not more than \$17,800,000, plus interest thereon,~~ to acquire  
10 under certain criteria transfer development rights in tracts or parcels of  
11 agricultural and forestry land located in Calvert County, Maryland, as part of  
12 the County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program; ~~empowering the County~~  
13 ~~to fix and determine under certain criteria, by resolution, the tracts or parcels of~~  
14 ~~land the transfer development rights of which are to be acquired and the form,~~  
15 ~~content, terms and conditions of each installment purchase agreement,~~  
16 ~~including, without limitation, the purchase price payable thereunder, the~~  
17 ~~maturity date of the installment purchase agreement, the interest rate and the~~  
18 ~~schedule of payments of the purchase price (or the method of determining such~~  
19 ~~interest rate and payment schedule) and all other details incident to the~~  
20 ~~acquisition of the development rights and the installment purchase agreements;~~  
21 ~~providing that the County's obligation to make payments of the purchase price~~  
22 ~~under the installment purchase agreements and to pay interest thereon shall be~~  
23 ~~a general obligation of the County made upon its full faith and credit;~~  
24 ~~empowering and directing the County to levy, impose, and collect, annually, ad~~  
25 ~~valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for the payment of~~  
26 ~~the maturing purchase price of and interest on the installment purchase~~  
27 ~~agreements; exempting the installment purchase agreements and the interest~~  
28 ~~thereon and any income derived therefrom from all State, county, municipal,~~

1 and other taxation in the State of Maryland; authorizing and empowering the  
 2 County to purchase and set aside in a segregated fund or account U.S. Treasury  
 3 STRIPs or other investments allowed under certain provisions of the law and  
 4 the investment guidelines of Calvert County to pay the balance of the purchase  
 5 price of the installment purchase agreements payable on their maturity dates;  
 6 and relating and generally relating to the County's entering into general  
 7 obligation installment purchase agreements to acquire transfer development  
 8 rights in agricultural and forestry lands in Calvert County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 10 Chapter 173 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000  
 11 Section 2

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
 13 MARYLAND, That, as used herein, the term "County" means the body politic and  
 14 corporate of the State of Maryland known as the County Commissioners of Calvert  
 15 County; and the term "Installment Purchase Agreement" means an agreement  
 16 pursuant to which the County will acquire transfer development rights in one or more  
 17 tracts or parcels of agricultural or forestry land located in Calvert County, Maryland,  
 18 from the owners thereof, will pay the purchase price for that land either in  
 19 installments or at the maturity of the Installment Purchase Agreement and will pay  
 20 interest on the unpaid balance of that purchase price. the Laws of Maryland read as  
 21 follows:

22 **Chapter 173 of the Acts of 2000**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby  
 24 authorized and empowered to enter into Installment Purchase Agreements for an  
 25 aggregate purchase price of not more than [\$10,300,000] \$17,800,000, plus interest  
 26 thereon, to acquire transfer development rights in tracts or parcels of agricultural and  
 27 forestry land located in Calvert County, Maryland; as part of the County's  
 28 Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The County's obligation to make payments  
 29 of the purchase price under each Installment Purchase Agreement and to pay interest  
 30 on the unpaid balance of the purchase price under each Installment Purchase  
 31 Agreement shall be a general obligation of the County and shall be made upon its full  
 32 faith and credit, and shall be evidenced by the Installment Purchase Agreement.

33 ~~SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County shall select~~  
 34 ~~the tracts or parcels of agricultural or forestry land for which transfer development~~  
 35 ~~rights are to be acquired and shall negotiate the purchase price for such transfer~~  
 36 ~~development rights and all other terms and conditions of the Installment Purchase~~  
 37 ~~Agreement with the owner or owners of such property, all in accordance with the~~  
 38 ~~County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program as in effect from time to time. In~~  
 39 ~~selecting the tracts or parcels of agricultural or forestry land for purposes of acquiring~~  
 40 ~~transfer development rights, the County shall to the extent possible select~~  
 41 ~~agricultural or forestry land equitably among the County election districts that are~~  
 42 ~~set by the County Commissioners.~~

1     SECTION 4. ~~AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That each Installment~~  
2 ~~Purchase Agreement shall be entered into in accordance with a resolution of the~~  
3 ~~County, which shall provide for the acquisition of the transfer development rights in~~  
4 ~~one or more specified particular tracts or parcels of agricultural or forestry property~~  
5 ~~located in Calvert County, Maryland which is to be the subject of the Installment~~  
6 ~~Purchase Agreement. In acquiring the transfer development rights in tracts or parcels~~  
7 ~~of agricultural or forestry land located in the County, the County shall to the extent~~  
8 ~~possible acquire agricultural or forestry land equitably among the County election~~  
9 ~~districts that are set by the County Commissioners. The County shall have and is~~  
10 ~~hereby granted full and complete authority and discretion in the resolution to specify~~  
11 ~~the tracts or parcels of agricultural or forestry land the transfer development rights of~~  
12 ~~which are to be acquired and to provide and approve the form, tenor and content of~~  
13 ~~the Installment Purchase Agreement described in the resolution, including, without~~  
14 ~~limitation, (a) the designation, (b) the date, (c) the purchase price thereunder (or the~~  
15 ~~maximum purchase price and the method of determining the final purchase price~~  
16 ~~subject to such limitation), (d) the maturity date of the Installment Purchase~~  
17 ~~Agreement (not exceeding 30 years from the date of execution and delivery of the~~  
18 ~~Installment Purchase Agreement) on which the final balance of the purchase price is~~  
19 ~~payable, (e) whether any portion of the purchase price will be payable prior to the~~  
20 ~~maturity date of the Installment Purchase Agreement, and, if so, the dates of~~  
21 ~~payments of any installments of the purchase price and the amounts of such~~  
22 ~~installments (or the methods or formula for determining such installment dates and~~  
23 ~~amounts), (f) the interest rate per annum (or the method of determining such rate)~~  
24 ~~payable on, the Installment Purchase Agreement from time to time and the dates for~~  
25 ~~payment of such interest, (g) the terms and conditions, if any, under which the~~  
26 ~~Installment Purchase Agreement may or shall be redeemed prior to its maturity date,~~  
27 ~~(h) provisions relating to the registration and transfer of the Installment Purchase~~  
28 ~~Agreement, (i) the required signatures on the Installment Purchase Agreement and~~  
29 ~~all related documents, (j) the appointment of a paying agent and registrar for the~~  
30 ~~Installment Purchase Agreement, which may be the Director of Administration and~~  
31 ~~Finance of the County, any other employee of the County, any department of the~~  
32 ~~County government or any bank or trust company within or without the State of~~  
33 ~~Maryland having corporate trust powers, (k) covenants relating to compliance with~~  
34 ~~applicable requirements of federal income tax law, including (without limitation)~~  
35 ~~covenants regarding the payment of rebate or penalties in lieu of rebate, and (l)~~  
36 ~~generally all matters incident to the acquisition of the transfer development rights~~  
37 ~~and the terms, conditions, execution and delivery of the Installment Purchase~~  
38 ~~Agreement.~~

39     Each Installment Purchase Agreement may be made redeemable before  
40 maturity, at the option of the County, at such price or prices and under such terms  
41 and conditions as may be fixed by the County prior to the execution and delivery of  
42 the Installment Purchase Agreement. The Installment Purchase Agreement shall be  
43 in registered form. In case any officer whose signature appears on any bond or on any  
44 coupon attached thereto ceases to be such officer before the delivery thereof, such  
45 signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes as if he or she had  
46 remained in office until such delivery. Any Installment Purchase Agreements entered  
47 from time to time into under the authority of this Act shall be specifically exempt

1 from the provisions of Sections 9, 10 and 11 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of  
2 Maryland.

3 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Installment Purchase  
4 Agreements hereby authorized shall constitute, and they shall so recite, an  
5 irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the  
6 County to the payment of the maturing purchase price under the Installment  
7 Purchase Agreements and the interest on the unpaid balance of that purchase price  
8 as and when they become payable. In each and every year until all of the purchase  
9 price payable under the Installment Purchase Agreements and the interest thereon  
10 are paid in full, the County shall levy or cause to be levied ad valorem taxes upon all  
11 the assessable property within the corporate limits of the county in rate and amount  
12 sufficient, together with any recordation tax revenues designated for such payments  
13 and other available funds, to provide for or assure the payment, when due, of the  
14 purchase price of all outstanding Installment Purchase Agreements and the interest  
15 thereon maturing in each such fiscal year and, in the event the proceeds from the  
16 taxes so levied in any such fiscal year shall prove inadequate for such payment,  
17 additional taxes shall be levied in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any such  
18 deficiency. The County may apply to the payment of the purchase price of the  
19 outstanding Installment Purchase Agreements and interest payable thereon any  
20 funds received by it from the State of Maryland, the United States of America, or any  
21 agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any other source, if such funds are granted  
22 for the purpose of assisting the County in financing the acquisition of transfer  
23 development rights in agricultural or forestry land located in Calvert County,  
24 Maryland and to the extent of any such funds received or receivable in any fiscal year,  
25 the taxes that are required to be levied may be reduced accordingly.

26 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is authorized  
27 and empowered to purchase and set aside in a segregated fund or account U.S.  
28 Treasury STRIPs or other obligations allowed under Article 95, Section 22, 22F, and  
29 22G of the Annotated Code of Maryland (or any successor provision of law) and the  
30 County's guidelines, as in effect from time to time. It is intended that investments in  
31 that segregated fund or account will be applied to the payment of the balance of the  
32 purchase price of the Installment Purchase Agreements on their respective maturity  
33 dates; but the investments shall not be pledged to the payment of the purchase price  
34 of any of the Installment Purchase Agreements or the interest thereon, and no person  
35 other than the County shall have any interest therein.

36 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any and all Installment  
37 Purchase Agreements entered into by the County pursuant to the authority of this  
38 Act, their transfer, the interest payable thereon, and any income derived therefrom in  
39 the hands of the registered owners thereof from time to time (including any profit  
40 made in the sale thereof) shall be and are hereby declared to be at all times exempt  
41 from State, county, municipal, or other taxation of every kind and nature whatsoever  
42 within the State of Maryland.

43 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the authority conferred  
44 on the County by this Act to enter into Installment Purchase Agreements and create  
45 debt of the County shall be deemed to provide an additional and alternative authority

~~1 for borrowing money and creating debt and shall be regarded as supplemental and  
2 additional to powers conferred upon the County by other laws and shall not be  
3 regarded as in derogation of any power now existing; and all Acts of the General  
4 Assembly of Maryland heretofore passed authorizing the County to borrow money  
5 and incur debt are hereby continued to the extent that the powers contained in those  
6 prior Acts have not been exercised, and nothing contained in this Act may be  
7 construed to impair, in any way, the validity of any bonds or other obligations that  
8 may have been entered into by the County under the authority of any of said Acts, and  
9 the validity of the bonds or other obligations is hereby ratified, confirmed, and  
10 approved. This Act, being necessary for the welfare of the inhabitants of Calvert  
11 County, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes hereof. All Acts and parts of  
12 Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed to the extent of  
13 such inconsistency.~~

14 SECTION ~~9~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
15 effect June 1, 2003.