

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request -
Departmental - Agriculture)**

Requested: November 15, 2004

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2005

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 8, 2005

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Agricultural Commission - Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Maryland Agricultural
4 Commission.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Agriculture
7 Section 2-203
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

12 **Article - Agriculture**

13 2-203.

14 (a) The Commission has [24] 28 members. One member is ex officio and is the
15 principal administrative official for agricultural affairs at the University System of
16 Maryland as designated by the Chancellor of the University. The Governor appoints
17 the remaining [23] 27 members as follows:

18 (1) Two from a list of at least four nominees representing the dairy
19 industry;

- 1 (2) Two from a list of at least four nominees representing the poultry
2 industry;
- 3 (3) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the livestock
4 industry;
- 5 (4) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the tobacco
6 industry;
- 7 (5) [One] TWO from a list of at least [two] FOUR nominees representing
8 the nursery industry;
- 9 (6) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the horticulture
10 industry;
- 11 (7) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the field crops
12 industry;
- 13 (8) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the vegetable
14 industry;
- 15 (9) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the veterinary
16 profession;
- 17 (10) One from a list of at least two nominees of the Maryland State
18 Grange;
- 19 (11) One from a list of at least two nominees of the Maryland Farm
20 Bureau;
- 21 (12) Two without nomination appointed at large from services related to
22 agriculture;
- 23 (13) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the turf
24 industry;
- 25 (14) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the
26 horse-breeding industry;
- 27 (15) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the food
28 processing industry;
- 29 (16) One without nomination appointed at large from the general public
30 to be the consumer member;
- 31 (17) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the organic
32 farming industry;
- 33 (18) One from a list of at least two nominees representing direct farm
34 marketing;

1 (19) One from a list of at least two nominees representing viticulture;
2 [and]

3 (20) One from a list of at least two nominees representing agriculture
4 education in primary or secondary schools;

5 (21) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING
6 AGRI-BUSINESS;

7 (22) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING THE
8 FORESTRY INDUSTRY; AND

9 (23) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING THE
10 AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY.

11 (b) (1) The consumer member of the Commission:

12 (i) Shall be a member of the general public;

13 (ii) May not be involved in any way with the activities on which the
14 Commission advises the Secretary; and

15 (iii) May not, within 1 year before appointment, have had a
16 financial interest in or have received compensation from a person who is involved in
17 any way with the activities on which the Commission advises the Secretary.

18 (2) While a member of the Commission, the consumer member may not
19 have a financial interest in or receive compensation from a person who is involved in
20 any way with the activities on which the Commission advises the Secretary.

21 (c) The term of membership is 3 years. A person may not serve more than two
22 consecutive terms. Members of the Commission appointed before January 1, 1973,
23 may continue to serve until the expiration of their terms. New appointments shall be
24 made from nominees of the industry, profession, or organization represented by the
25 member whose term is expiring.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2005.