SENATE BILL 457

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By: Calvert County Senators

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2013 Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Calvert County – Local Forest Conservation Fund – Administrative Costs

- FOR the purpose of authorizing Calvert County to use money in its local forest
 conservation fund to pay certain administrative costs; and generally relating to
 the use of local forest conservation funds in Calvert County.
- 6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 7 Article Natural Resources
- 8 Section 5–1610(i)
- 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 10 (2012 Replacement Volume)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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Article – Natural Resources

14 5-1610.

15 (i) (1) [Money] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS 16 SUBSECTION, MONEY deposited in the local forest conservation fund under 17 subsection (h) of this section may only be spent on reforestation and afforestation, 18 including the costs directly related to site identification, acquisition, prepurchase, and 19 preparation, maintenance of existing forests, and achieving urban canopy goals, and 20 may not revert to any other local general fund.

21 (2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) or (iii) of this 22 paragraph, the reforestation or afforestation requirement under this subsection shall 23 occur in the county and watershed in which the project is located.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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1 (ii) If the reforestation or afforestation cannot be reasonably 2 accomplished in the county and watershed in which the project is located, then the 3 reforestation or afforestation shall occur in the county or watershed in the State in 4 which the project is located.

 $\mathbf{5}$ If the reforestation or afforestation cannot be reasonably (iii) 6 accomplished in the county or watershed in which the project is located, then the 7reforestation or afforestation shall be accomplished through purchase of credits in, 8 establishment, or maintenance of a forest mitigation bank in accordance with 9 regulations of the local forest conservation program. The Reforestation Fund may not be used to finance administrative activities associated with a mitigation bank and any 10 11 credits created by the Reforestation Fund may not be sold to compensate for additional 12forest impacts.

(3) IN CALVERT COUNTY, MONEY DEPOSITED IN THE LOCAL
 FOREST CONSERVATION FUND UNDER SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION MAY
 ALSO BE USED FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF
 STAFF, DIRECTLY RELATED TO REFORESTATION AND AFFORESTATION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effectOctober 1, 2013.

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