

HB0515/790714/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 515

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Noxious Weeds –”; in the same line, after “Amaranth” insert “– Study”; strike beginning with “adding” in line 3 down through the first “State” in line 4 and substitute “requiring the Department of Agriculture to conduct a study to assess the adverse financial impact of Palmer amaranth on the agricultural industry in the State and to determine the necessary actions certain persons must take to reduce the impact and the costs of the actions; requiring the Department to consult with certain persons in conducting the study and to submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date”; in line 4, after “to” insert “invasive”; strike in their entirety lines 5 through 9, inclusive; and in line 11, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 12 on page 1 through line 1 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) The Department of Agriculture shall conduct a study to:

(1) assess the adverse financial impact of the invasive weed Palmer amaranth on the agricultural industry in the State; and

(2) determine the necessary actions each stakeholder must take to reduce the impact of Palmer amaranth and the cost of each action.

(b) In conducting the study, the Department shall consult with representatives of:

(Over)

**HB0515/790714/1 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 515
Page 2 of 2**

- (1) the State Highway Administration;
- (2) the Maryland Farm Bureau;
- (3) soil conservation districts;
- (4) the Maryland Association of Counties;
- (5) the Maryland Grain Producers; and
- (6) any other interested stakeholder, as determined by the Department.

(c) On or before December 1, 2018, the Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.”.

On page 2, in line 3, strike “October” and substitute “June”.