

HB1295/469034/1

BY: Budget and Taxation Committee

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1295
(Third Reading File Bill)

On page 1, in line 4, after “of” insert “altering the definition of “qualified distressed county” by altering certain income levels in the definition and renaming it to be “Tier I county”;”.

On page 2, in line 10, after “Section” insert “1-101.”.

On page 4, after line 11, insert:

“1-101.

(a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “County” means a county of the State or Baltimore City.

(c) “Department” means the Department of Commerce.

(d) “Person” means an individual, receiver, trustee, guardian, personal representative, fiduciary, representative of any kind, partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other entity.

[(e) (1) “Qualified distressed county” means a county with:

(i) an average rate of unemployment for the most recent 24-month period for which data are available that exceeds 150% of the average rate of unemployment for the State during that period;

(ii) an average rate of unemployment for the most recent 24-

(Over)

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month period for which data are available that exceeds the average rate of unemployment in the State by at least 2 percentage points; or

(iii) an average per capita personal income for the most recent 24-month period for which data are available that is equal to or less than 67% of the average per capita personal income for the State during that period.

(2) “Qualified distressed county” includes a county that:

(i) no longer meets either criterion stated in paragraph (1) of this subsection; but

(ii) has met at least one of the criteria at some time during the preceding 24-month period.]

[(f)] (E) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

[(g)] (F) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, “state” means:

(i) a state, possession, territory, or commonwealth of the United States; or

(ii) the District of Columbia.

(2) When capitalized, “State” means Maryland.

(G) (1) “TIER I COUNTY” MEANS A COUNTY WITH:

(I) AN AVERAGE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE MOST RECENT 24-MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH DATA ARE AVAILABLE THAT EXCEEDS

150% OF THE AVERAGE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE STATE DURING THAT PERIOD;

(II) AN AVERAGE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE MOST RECENT 24-MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH DATA ARE AVAILABLE THAT EXCEEDS THE AVERAGE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE STATE BY AT LEAST 2 PERCENTAGE POINTS; OR

(III) A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE MOST RECENT 24-MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH DATA ARE AVAILABLE THAT IS EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 75% OF THE MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE STATE DURING THAT PERIOD.

(2) “TIER I COUNTY” INCLUDES A COUNTY THAT:

(I) NO LONGER MEETS ANY OF THE CRITERIA STATED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION; BUT

(II) HAS MET AT LEAST ONE OF THE CRITERIA AT SOME TIME DURING THE PRECEDING 24-MONTH PERIOD.”.

On page 7, in line 1, strike “IN” and substitute “FOR”.