

HOUSE BILL 747

E5

3lr1933
CF 3lr2806

By: **Delegates Pasteur, Acevero, Crutchfield, Ebersole, McCaskill, Phillips, Ruth, Stein, White, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2023

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Services – Inmate Employment – Agricultural Work**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of the Division of Correction to arrange for the
4 employment of certain inmates in certain camps to perform agricultural work; and
5 generally relating to the employment of inmates.

6 BY repealing

7 Article – Correctional Services

8 Section 9–515

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Correctional Services**

14 **[9–515.**

15 (a) This section applies to:

16 (1) inmates of any camp in Queen Anne’s County or in any other county in
17 which similar camps are established; and

18 (2) inmates in a county within a reasonable distance, to be determined by
19 the Division of Correction, of a camp described in item (1) of this subsection.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) Except for inmates needed or being utilized by the State Highway
2 Administration for emergency road maintenance, the Division of Correction shall arrange
3 for inmates to be employed in agricultural work during any part of the year.

4 (c) A person that employs inmates in agricultural work under this section shall:

5 (1) pay the reasonable value for the work at the estimated prevailing wage
6 in the community where the inmates are employed; and

7 (2) give any security for the payments that the Division of Correction
8 requires.

9 (d) A person that employs inmates under this section may sell the produce
10 harvested by the inmates.

11 (e) Inmates employed in agricultural work under this section shall be under the
12 control and supervision of the Division of Correction to the same extent as when employed
13 in the construction and maintenance of public roads.]

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2023.