
**By: Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee (Departmental -
Transportation)**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 1996
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Height Limits on Structures and Vegetation - Adoption of Regulations -**
3 **Baltimore-Washington International Airport**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing certain statutory standards governing the maximum
5 allowable height of structures and vegetation within certain airport districts for
6 Baltimore-Washington International Airport; requiring the Maryland Aviation
7 Administration to adopt regulations consistent with applicable federal aviation
8 regulations; defining certain terms; repealing certain obsolete references; and
9 generally relating to height limits on structures and vegetation in the
10 Baltimore-Washington International Airport area.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Transportation
13 Section 5-509
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 5-509.

20 (a) [In this section, "map" means the airport zoning map for
21 Baltimore-Washington International Airport, as filed in the land records of Anne
22 Arundel County, Baltimore County, and Howard County.

23 (b) (1) For purposes of this subtitle, the following three types of airport zoning
24 districts are established for the Baltimore-Washington International Airport, for that
25 land area] IN THIS SECTION, "DISTRICT" MEANS THE LAND AREA ESTABLISHED FOR
26 BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DELINEATED BY AND
27 CONTAINED within a circle the radius of which is 4 miles from a point the Maryland grid
28 coordinates of which are E893,909.99 -- N490,279.30.[:

29 (i) Approach zone districts;

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1 (ii) Transition zone districts; and

2 (iii) Turning zone districts.

3 (2) Each approach zone district is divided into an inner area and an outer
4 area, as indicated on the map.

5 (c) The boundaries of each district are established as shown on the map.

6 (d)] (B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a structure may not
7 be erected, altered, or maintained and a tree or other vegetation may not be allowed to
8 grow or be maintained [in any district] at a height greater than the height limit
9 established for the district. [The datum plane for measurements is meansea level, as
10 established by the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey.]

11 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING
12 THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT LIMIT ANY STRUCTURE, TREE, OR OTHER VEGETATION
13 MAY BE ALLOWED TO GROW OR BE MAINTAINED IN THE DISTRICT, CONSISTENT
14 WITH APPLICABLE FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS.

15 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL FILE IN THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE
16 ARUNDEL COUNTY, BALTIMORE COUNTY, AND HOWARD COUNTY A MAP DEPICTING
17 THE DISTRICT ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION.

18 [(e) (1) Within the inner area of any approach zone district, the height of any
19 structure, tree, or vegetation may not exceed 1 foot of height for each50 feet measured
20 on the ground. Measurements shall begin from the end of the runway at the location and
21 elevation shown on the map and along the centerline of the approach zone district to a
22 point on the centerline at right angles to the structure, tree, or vegetation.

23 (2) Within the outer area of any approach zone district, the height of any
24 structure, tree, or vegetation may not exceed 280 feet above mean sea level.

25 (f) Within any transition zone district, the height of any structure, tree, or
26 vegetation may not exceed the lesser of:

27 (1) 280 feet above mean sea level; or

28 (2) The sum of:

29 (i) The height permitted in the adjoining approach zone district at a
30 point on its centerline at right angles to the structure, tree, or vegetation; plus

31 (ii) 1 foot of height for each 7 feet that the structure, tree, or
32 vegetation is distant from the side boundary of the adjoining approach zone district
33 measured horizontally along a line perpendicular to the centerline of the adjoining
34 approach zone district.

35 (g) Within the turning zone district, which includes all the land that is within 4
36 miles from a point within the airport property the Maryland grid coordinates of which are
37 E893,909.99 -- N490,279.30 and that is not included in an approach or transition zone
38 district, the height of any structure, tree, or vegetation may not exceed 280 feet above
39 mean sea level.

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1 (h) Where districts overlap, the maximum height permitted is that of the district
2 with the most stringent height regulation.]

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 1996.