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

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

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 13, 1996

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

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 airportdistricts 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.

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

7 (i) Approach zone districts;

8 (ii) Transition zone districts; and

9 (iii) Turning zone districts.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 (1) 280 feet above mean sea level; or

35 (2) The sum of:

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

38 (ii) 1 foot of height for each 7 feet that the structure, tree, or  
39 vegetation is distant from the side boundary of the adjoining approach zone district

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1 measured horizontally along a line perpendicular to the centerline of the adjoining  
2 approach zone district.

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

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

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