

SENATE BILL 284

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C8

1998 Regular Session
(8lr2032)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Finance/Economic Matters --

Introduced by **Senators Teitelbaum, McFadden, and Sfikas**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business and Economic Development - Enterprise Zones - Designation**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirements an area must satisfy in order for the
4 Secretary of Business and Economic Development to designate the area an
5 enterprise zone; requiring the Secretary of Business and Economic Development
6 to adopt certain regulations under certain circumstances; and generally relating
7 to enterprise zones.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development
10 Section ~~5-403(a)~~ 5-403
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

1 **Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development**

2 5-403.

3 (a) The Secretary may not designate any area an enterprise zone unless that
4 area satisfies at least one of the following requirements:

5 (1) The average rate of unemployment in the area, or within a
6 reasonable proximity within that county to that area, for the most recent 18-month
7 period for which data are available must be at least 150 percent of the average rate of
8 unemployment in either the State of Maryland or the United States, whichever
9 average rate is greater, during that same period;

10 (2) The population in the area or within a reasonable proximity within
11 that county to that area is a low-income poverty area ~~on the basis of the most recent~~
12 ~~census OR OTHER BASIS SATISFACTORY TO THE SECRETARY;~~

13 (3) At least 70 percent of the families living in the area or within a
14 reasonable proximity within that county to that area have incomes that are less than
15 an amount equal to 80 percent of the median family income within the political
16 subdivision in which the area is located; or

17 (4) Population in the area or within a reasonable proximity within that
18 county to that area decreased by 10 percent between the date of the most recent
19 census and the date of the immediately preceding census, and the political
20 subdivision can demonstrate to the Secretary's satisfaction that either chronic
21 abandonment or demolition of property is occurring in that area or substantial
22 property tax arrearages exist within that area.

23 (b) (1) The Secretary may establish by regulation any other requirements
24 that the Secretary reasonably determines are necessary and appropriate to assure that
25 the purposes of this subtitle are satisfied.

26 (2) BEFORE CONSIDERING DATA OTHER THAN THE MOST RECENT
27 CENSUS FOR PURPOSES OF MAKING A DETERMINATION UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2)
28 OF THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS SPECIFYING
29 ALTERNATIVE DATA THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO THE SECRETARY.

30 (c) In determining if an area meets the requirements of this section the
31 Secretary may consider data provided by the United States Bureau of the Census from
32 the most recent census or any other reliable data which the Secretary determines to be
33 acceptable for the purposes for which such data are used.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
35 October 1, 1998.

