
By: **Senators Teitelbaum, McFadden, and Sfikas**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1998
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

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; and generally relating to enterprise zones.

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

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

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

14 5-403.

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

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

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

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

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

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