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By: **Washington County Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1999  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 22, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County - Right to Farm**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Washington County to  
4 adopt an ordinance or regulation or take certain other action to protect a  
5 person's right to farm or engage in agricultural or forestry operations; requiring  
6 the County Commissioners to hold a public hearing and provide reasonable  
7 notice of the hearing under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the  
8 right to farm in Washington County.

9 BY adding to  
10 The Public Local Laws of Washington County  
11 Section 1-1101 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 11. Right to Farm"  
12 Article 22 - Public Local Laws of Maryland  
13 (1991 Edition and December 1997 Supplement, as amended)

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

16 **Article 22 - Washington County**

17 **SUBTITLE 11. RIGHT TO FARM.**

18 1-1101.

19 (A) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
20 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ADOPT AN ORDINANCE OR REGULATION, OR TAKE  
21 ANY OTHER ACTION THAT THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONSIDER NECESSARY, TO

1 PROTECT A PERSON'S RIGHT TO FARM OR ENGAGE IN AGRICULTURAL OR FORESTRY  
2 OPERATIONS.

3 (B) BEFORE ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE OR REGULATION, OR TAKING OTHER  
4 ACTION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
5 SHALL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AND PROVIDE REASONABLE NOTICE OF THE  
6 HEARING.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 1999.