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By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (Departmental -  
Agriculture)**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2000

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture - Weed Control - Civil Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to impose a civil penalty  
4 up to a certain amount on any person who violates the weed control law;  
5 requiring the penalties to be paid into the State's General Fund; and requiring  
6 the Secretary to adopt certain regulations.

7 BY adding to  
8 Article - Agriculture  
9 Section 9-406  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Agriculture**

15 9-406.

16 (A) INSTEAD OF ANY OTHER PENALTY AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS ARTICLE,  
17 THE SECRETARY MAY IMPOSE, ON ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF  
18 THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY ORDER WHICH THE SECRETARY HAS ISSUED UNDER THIS  
19 SUBTITLE, A CIVIL PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$500 FOR EACH VIOLATION.

20 (B) PENALTIES COLLECTED BY THE SECRETARY UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL  
21 BE PAID INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

22 (C) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE  
23 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
25 effect October 1, 2000.