

SENATE BILL 82

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2000 Regular Session
0lr0746
CF 0lr0958

By: **Senators Baker and Hooper**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2000

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County - Economic Development Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain provisions of law concerning the Cecil County
4 Economic Development Commission; altering the composition and qualifications
5 of the members of the Commission; altering the term of office of members of the
6 Commission; altering the meeting schedule and the number of members needed
7 to call a meeting of the Commission; requiring the Commission to file a certain
8 annual report by a certain date; making stylistic changes; and generally relating
9 to the Cecil County Economic Development Commission.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 The Public Local Laws of Cecil County
12 Section 26-1 through 26-6, inclusive
13 Article 8 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
14 (1989 Edition and November 1999 Supplement, as amended)

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

17 **Article 8 - Cecil County**

18 26-1.

19 The Economic Development Commission of Cecil County is created for the
20 purpose of advancing the general ECONOMIC welfare of the people through THE
21 ESTABLISHMENT OF programs and activities [to develop Cecil County's natural
22 resources and economic opportunities pertaining to commerce] THAT RESULT IN NEW
23 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, JOB GROWTH, AND EXPANSION OF THE LOCAL TAX BASE, AND
24 THAT RELATE TO MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT,
25 CORPORATE AND REGIONAL OFFICES, agriculture, [forestry, transportation, travel,]
26 AND tourism [and recreation,]; and to cooperate WITH and offer assistance to existing
27 industries and businesses IN ORDER TO FACILITATE ECONOMIC EXPANSION, and to
28 promote and encourage the [establishing] ESTABLISHMENT and location of new
29 industries and businesses in Cecil County; and [other matters] TO DEVELOP AND
30 IMPLEMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES intended to foster and develop

1 gainful employment [and the pursuit of happiness of] OPPORTUNITIES FOR all who
2 are now or may hereafter be residents of Cecil County.

3 26-2.

4 The Commission shall consist of not fewer than [nine (9)] TWENTY-THREE (23)
5 nor more than [fifteen (15)] THIRTY-THREE (33) members, who shall be appointed by
6 the Board of County Commissioners. [The members shall represent a cross-section of
7 the economic composition of] MEMBERS SHOULD REASONABLY REPRESENT THE
8 VARIOUS SECTORS WITHIN Cecil County and shall be selected because of their known
9 experience and interest in the ECONOMIC development of Cecil County. [Those
10 organizations representing the same categoric interest shall jointly send to the Board
11 a list of not less than two (2) nor more than three (3) names of persons duly qualified
12 and interested in serving on the Commission.] THE MEMBERSHIP SHALL INCLUDE
13 ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION LOCATED IN THE
14 COUNTY, WHO SHALL BE SELECTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE MAYOR AND
15 COMMISSIONERS. THE MEMBERSHIP SHALL ALSO INCLUDE TWO (2)
16 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, WHO ARE INTERESTED IN
17 THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF CECIL COUNTY.

18 26-3.

19 The members of the Commission shall serve for [two (2)] THREE (3) years from
20 the effective date of their appointment and are eligible for reappointment. They shall
21 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary travel and other
22 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Commission shall select
23 from its own membership a [Chairman, Vice Chairman] CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, and a
24 Secretary-Treasurer to serve a term of one (1) year and to be eligible for re-election,
25 provided that no one (1) person shall hold the position of [Chairman] CHAIR for more
26 than three (3) consecutive terms. Upon the death, disability, resignation, or removal
27 of any member of the Commission, the Board shall appoint a person representing
28 GENERALLY the same [categoric] BUSINESS, MUNICIPAL, OR COMMUNITY interest to
29 serve for the unexpired term. The Commission has the power to establish and appoint
30 advisory groups and committees to assist in its program of activity [of which], WHICH
31 membership is not restricted solely to members of the Commission.

32 26-4.

33 The Commission shall meet [monthly] REGULARLY and [shall] MAY hold
34 special meetings at the call of the [Chairman] CHAIR or [of any three (3)] A
35 MAJORITY OF THE members of the Commission. The Commission shall adopt such
36 rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to govern its procedure and business.
37 [Seven (7)] A MAJORITY OF THE members shall constitute a quorum. The
38 Commission shall submit to the Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County an
39 annual operating budget for [the] EACH fiscal year for the approval [of] BY the
40 Board, and the Board shall provide such funds as it may approve. The Commission is
41 empowered to employ such employees as its business may require, within the limits of
42 its appropriation, provided that any newly created position or positions and salary
43 pertinent thereto receive the PRIOR approval of the Board. This provision requires

1 that the title of the position or positions to be created be subject to the County
2 Commissioners' approval, with the actual appointment of a person or persons to be
3 within the powers of the Economic Development Commission.

4 26-5.

5 [Annual reports] AN ANNUAL REPORT shall be made BY THE ECONOMIC
6 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION and filed with the Board of County Commissioners of
7 Cecil County WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR and made available
8 to the public. The annual report shall include AN ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE OF
9 THE COMMISSION AND THE STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AS
10 WELL AS subjects and recommendations for the improvement and advancement of the
11 economic welfare of the people of Cecil County.

12 26-6.

13 The Commission may:

14 A. Investigate and assemble information pertinent to the economic resources
15 and industrial opportunities of the county.

16 B. Encourage [location of new industrial enterprises in the county and] the
17 expansions of [present] EXISTING enterprises AND ENCOURAGE THE LOCATION OF
18 NEW INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN THE COUNTY.

19 C. Encourage development of [recreational areas] AGRIBUSINESS and
20 [encourage] PROMOTE tourist business in the county, making the public aware of the
21 county's [historical background] HISTORY and [progress] CULTURE.

22 D. Disseminate information in the interest of industrial development by
23 publication, advertising and other means.

24 E. [Cooperate] DEVELOP STRATEGIC ALLIANCES with [any] federal, state,
25 REGIONAL, AND local [agency, board or commission] ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
26 BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS in the furtherance of its purposes.

27 F. Cooperate with any interested private [concern] ENTITY, civic
28 organization or subdivisions thereof in furtherance of its purposes.

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