
By: **Delegates Guns and Rudolph**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Veterans' Cemetery at Bainbridge**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Veterans' Commission and the Maryland
4 Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study of the feasibility of
5 establishing a veterans' cemetery on the grounds of the former Bainbridge Naval
6 Training Center in Cecil County; providing for the matters to be included in the
7 study; and requiring that the Commission and the Department report to the
8 appropriate committees of the General Assembly and the Cecil County
9 legislative delegation on the results of the study on or before a certain date.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article - State Government
12 Section 9-913(a) through (c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - State Government**

18 9-913.

19 (a) (1) In this section, "State veterans' cemetery" means a cemetery that the
20 Commission establishes under this section.

21 (2) In this section and in § 9-914 of this subtitle, "veteran" means an
22 individual who:

23 (i) served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States;
24 or

25 (ii) served as a member of the State militia ordered into active
26 service of the United States by order of the President and was killed in the line of
27 duty.

1 (b) The Commission may establish 1 or more cemeteries in the State for the
2 burial of veterans and their immediate families.

3 (c) (1) The Commission may accept land, on behalf of the State or a political
4 subdivision of the State, or otherwise acquire land for a State veterans' cemetery, if
5 the Commission has the approval of:

6 (i) the governing body of the county where the State veterans'
7 cemetery is to be located;

8 (ii) the delegation in the General Assembly for the county where
9 the State veterans' cemetery is to be located; and

10 (iii) the Board of Public Works.

11 (2) In selecting a location for a proposed State veterans' cemetery, the
12 Commission shall give priority to land that is near a national memorial battle site.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Veterans'
14 Commission and the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a study
15 of the feasibility of establishing a veterans' cemetery on the grounds of the former
16 Bainbridge Naval Training Center in Cecil County. On or before November 30, 2001,
17 the Commission and the Department shall report the results of the study, subject to §
18 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the appropriate committees of the General
19 Assembly and the members of the Cecil County legislative delegation. The study shall
20 include:

21 (1) The projected cost of the State acquiring land located on the former
22 Bainbridge Naval Training Center from the town of Port Deposit and the availability
23 of State and private moneys or public indebtedness to pay those costs;

24 (2) The likelihood of approval of an acquisition of the land for a veterans'
25 cemetery at Bainbridge by the Cecil County Commissioners, the county legislative
26 delegation, and the Board of Public Works;

27 (3) The availability of federal funds to pay for developing the buildings
28 and facilities for a veterans' cemetery at Bainbridge and the level of State match
29 required for federal funds;

30 (4) The projected costs of maintaining a veterans' cemetery at
31 Bainbridge and the availability of State or private moneys to pay those costs;

32 (5) The level of community support for establishing a veterans' cemetery
33 at Bainbridge; and

34 (6) The projected levels of use of any veterans' cemetery built at
35 Bainbridge.

36 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
37 July 1, 2001.

