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By: **Western Maryland Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2001  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Forest Mitigation Banks - Creation - Use of Federal Funds**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that certain standards of the Department of Natural  
4 Resources permit a person to utilize certain federal funds in the creation of a  
5 forest mitigation bank, notwithstanding a certain date; requiring the  
6 Department to adopt certain regulations by a certain date; and generally  
7 relating to the utilization of certain federal funds in the creation of forest  
8 mitigation banks.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Natural Resources  
11 Section 5-1610.1(a)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2000 Replacement Volume)

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

16 **Article - Natural Resources**

17 5-1610.1.

18 (a) (1) The Department shall develop standards and adopt regulations for  
19 the creation and use of forest mitigation banks, including criteria for tracking,  
20 crediting, maintaining, bonding, and reporting mitigation bank activities.

21 (2) THE DEPARTMENT'S STANDARDS SHALL PERMIT A PERSON TO  
22 UTILIZE FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT  
23 PROGRAM OR ANY OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS IN ORDER TO CREATE A FOREST  
24 MITIGATION BANK, NOTWITHSTANDING THE DATE OF CREATION OF THE  
25 MITIGATION BANK.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That by December 31, 2001,  
27 the Department of Natural Resources shall adopt regulations to implement the  
28 provisions of this Act.

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