

BY: Budget and Taxation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 750

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike "Assessment of" and substitute "Tax Credits for"; strike beginning with "altering" in line 3 down through "easements" in line 8 and substitute "providing for a certain tax credit by altering the date by which certain donations of certain conservation land may have been made in order to qualify for a county or municipal property tax credit; and generally relating to tax credits for conservation property"; in line 11, strike "8-101(b) and 9-107" and substitute "9-220"; and strike in their entirety lines 14 through 18, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 22 through 27, inclusive.

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 32, inclusive.

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 22, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, after line 22, insert:

"9-220.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Conservation land" means real property that is:

(i) subject to a perpetual conservation easement donated to a land trust or the Maryland Environmental Trust on or after [July 1, 1991] JUNE 30, 1986;

(Over)

(ii) 1. acquired by a land trust on or after July 1, 1991;
2. owned in fee by that land trust; and
3. subject to a letter of intent, agreement, or option agreement for the resale of the property to a government agency;

(iii) owned by the Potomac Conservancy; or

(iv) owned by the Western Shore Conservancy.

(3) "Land trust" means a qualified conservation organization as defined in § 3-2A-01 of the Natural Resources Article.

(b) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may grant, by law, a property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on conservation land or property owned by a land trust that qualifies under subsection (d) of this section, that is used:

(1) to assist in the preservation of a natural area;

(2) for the environmental education of the public;

(3) generally to promote conservation; or

(4) for the maintenance of:

(i) a natural area for public use; or

(ii) a sanctuary for wildlife.

(c) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may provide, by law, for:

(1) the amount and duration of the property tax credit under this section; and

(2) any other provision necessary to carry out the property tax credit under this section.

(d) To qualify for a property tax credit under this section, a land trust shall:

(1) be certified by the Maryland Environmental Trust to be a land trust in good standing and to have a cooperative agreement in effect; and

(2) obtain a written certification every 5 years beginning July 1, 1998, or as scheduled by the Maryland Environmental Trust.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002 and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2002.”.