
By: **Delegates Costa, V. Clagett, Dwyer, Elmore, Leopold, Love, Smigiel,
Sophocleus, and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Acreage**
3 **Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering certain criteria developed by the Maryland Agricultural
5 Land Preservation Foundation concerning the acreage requirements for land to
6 qualify for inclusion in an agricultural district; and generally relating to the
7 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Agriculture
10 Section 2-509(c)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Agriculture**

16 2-509.

17 (c) Regulations and criteria developed by the Foundation relating to land
18 which may be included in an agricultural district shall provide that:

19 (1) Subject to item (2) of this subsection, land shall meet productivity,
20 acreage, and locational criteria determined by the Foundation to be necessary for the
21 continuation of farming;

22 (2) As long as all other criteria are met, land that is at least [50] 25
23 acres in size shall qualify for inclusion in an agricultural district;

24 (3) The Foundation shall attempt to preserve the minimum number of
25 acres in a given district which may reasonably be expected to promote the continued
26 availability of agricultural suppliers and markets for agricultural goods;

1 (4) Land within the boundaries of a 10-year water and sewer service
2 district may be included in an agricultural district only if that land is outstanding in
3 productivity and is of significant size; and

4 (5) Land may be included in an agricultural district only if the county
5 regulations governing the land permit the activities listed under § 2-513(a) of this
6 subtitle.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2003.