

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request -
Departmental - Agriculture)**

Requested: November 15, 2004

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2005

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Agricultural Commission - Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Maryland Agricultural
4 Commission.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Agriculture
7 Section 2-203
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

12 **Article - Agriculture**

13 2-203.

14 (a) The Commission has [24] 28 members. One member is ex officio and is the
15 principal administrative official for agricultural affairs at the University System of
16 Maryland as designated by the Chancellor of the University. The Governor appoints
17 the remaining [23] 27 members as follows:

18 (1) Two from a list of at least four nominees representing the dairy
19 industry;

20 (2) Two from a list of at least four nominees representing the poultry
21 industry;

22 (3) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the livestock
23 industry;

24 (4) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the tobacco
25 industry;

- 1 (5) [One] TWO from a list of at least [two] FOUR nominees representing
2 the nursery industry;
- 3 (6) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the horticulture
4 industry;
- 5 (7) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the field crops
6 industry;
- 7 (8) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the vegetable
8 industry;
- 9 (9) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the veterinary
10 profession;
- 11 (10) One from a list of at least two nominees of the Maryland State
12 Grange;
- 13 (11) One from a list of at least two nominees of the Maryland Farm
14 Bureau;
- 15 (12) Two without nomination appointed at large from services related to
16 agriculture;
- 17 (13) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the turf
18 industry;
- 19 (14) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the
20 horse-breeding industry;
- 21 (15) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the food
22 processing industry;
- 23 (16) One without nomination appointed at large from the general public
24 to be the consumer member;
- 25 (17) One from a list of at least two nominees representing the organic
26 farming industry;
- 27 (18) One from a list of at least two nominees representing direct farm
28 marketing;
- 29 (19) One from a list of at least two nominees representing viticulture;
30 [and]
- 31 (20) One from a list of at least two nominees representing agriculture
32 education in primary or secondary schools;
- 33 (21) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING
34 AGRI-BUSINESS;

1 (22) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING THE
2 FORESTRY INDUSTRY; AND

3 (23) ONE FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST TWO NOMINEES REPRESENTING THE
4 AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY.

5 (b) (1) The consumer member of the Commission:

6 (i) Shall be a member of the general public;

7 (ii) May not be involved in any way with the activities on which the
8 Commission advises the Secretary; and

9 (iii) May not, within 1 year before appointment, have had a
10 financial interest in or have received compensation from a person who is involved in
11 any way with the activities on which the Commission advises the Secretary.

12 (2) While a member of the Commission, the consumer member may not
13 have a financial interest in or receive compensation from a person who is involved in
14 any way with the activities on which the Commission advises the Secretary.

15 (c) The term of membership is 3 years. A person may not serve more than two
16 consecutive terms. Members of the Commission appointed before January 1, 1973,
17 may continue to serve until the expiration of their terms. New appointments shall be
18 made from nominees of the industry, profession, or organization represented by the
19 member whose term is expiring.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2005.