

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 279
Appropriations

(Allegany County Delegation)

Budget and Taxation

Allegany County Agricultural Expo and Fairgrounds Loan of 1999

This bill removes the requirement that the Allegany County Commissioners, as grantee, grant and convey a perpetual preservation easement to the Maryland Historical Trust as a condition to the Allegany County Agricultural Expo and Fairgrounds Loan of 1999.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Removing the requirement for a perpetual preservation easement would not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: Allegany County could experience additional economic development in the area around the agricultural expo and fairgrounds and could construct other enhancements on the property. The value of this activity cannot be accurately estimated.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 175 of 1999 authorized up to \$450,000 for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Allegany County fairgrounds of three connected pavilion buildings that would contain the Allegany County Agricultural Expo offices, exhibition areas, restrooms, and showers and a separate expo building that would contain a year-round activity area with a catering kitchen and rest rooms that could be used for meetings, conventions, banquets, trade shows, and similar events.

The grantee must grant and convey to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its interest on the land or the portion of the land acceptable to the trust and on the exterior and interior of the historic structures. The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the trust.

Background: Funds for the project authorized under Chapter 175 have already been dispersed. The grantee wishes to be able to develop part of the property for other purposes, including a boat ramp.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Allegany County, Department of General Services, Comptroller's Office, Maryland Historical Trust, Department of Legislative Services

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