

SENATE BILL 731

Q7
SB 658/06 – B&T

7lr2530
CF HB 633

By: **Senators Hooper, Astle, Brinkley, Colburn, Dyson, Edwards, Garagiola, Greenip, Haines, Harris, Jacobs, Kittleman, Middleton, Munson, Pipkin, Robey, Simonaire, and Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Estate Tax – Exclusions for Family Farms Subject to Agricultural**
3 **Preservation Easements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the determination of the Maryland estate tax under
5 certain circumstances to exclude from the value of the gross estate the value of
6 certain real property subject to certain agricultural preservation easements;
7 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the Maryland
8 estate tax.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Tax – General
11 Section 7–309(b)(1) and (2)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Tax – General
16 Section 7–309(c)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Tax – General

7–309.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) through (7) of this subsection **AND SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION**, after the effective date of an Act of Congress described in subsection (a) of this section, the Maryland estate tax shall be determined using:

(i) the federal credit allowable by § 2011 of the Internal Revenue Code as in effect before the reduction or repeal of the federal credit pursuant to the Act of Congress; and

(ii) other provisions of federal estate tax law as in effect on the date of the decedent's death.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) through (7) of this subsection **AND SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION**, if the federal estate tax is not in effect on the date of the decedent's death, the Maryland estate tax shall be determined using:

(i) the federal credit allowable by § 2011 of the Internal Revenue Code as in effect before the reduction or repeal of the federal credit pursuant to the Act of Congress; and

(ii) other provisions of federal estate tax law as in effect on the date immediately preceding the effective date of the repeal of the federal estate tax.

(c) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “CHILD” AND “PARENT” HAVE THE MEANINGS STATED IN § 7–203(B) OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE MARYLAND ESTATE TAX SHALL BE DETERMINED BY EXCLUDING FROM THE VALUE OF THE GROSS ESTATE THE VALUE OF ANY REAL PROPERTY THAT:

(i) IS SUBJECT TO A PERPETUAL AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION EASEMENT THAT HAS BEEN GRANTED TO:

1. THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION; OR

1 **2. A LOCAL AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION**
2 **PROGRAM THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL**
3 **LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION; AND**

4 **(II) PASSES FROM THE DECEDENT TO OR FOR THE USE OF:**

5 **1. A SPOUSE, PARENT, OR GRANDPARENT OF THE**
6 **DECEDENT;**

7 **2. A CHILD OF THE DECEDENT OR A LINEAL**
8 **DESCENDANT OF A CHILD OF THE DECEDENT;**

9 **3. A SPOUSE OF A CHILD OF THE DECEDENT OR A**
10 **SPOUSE OF A LINEAL DESCENDANT OF A CHILD OF THE DECEDENT; OR**

11 **4. A BROTHER OR SISTER OF THE DECEDENT.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 July 1, 2007, and shall be applicable to decedents dying after December 31, 2006.