CHAPTER 93

(House Bill 1217)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Heritage Areas Authority

FOR the purpose of extending a certain time period for the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to make certain grants for acquisition or development; altering the area within which the Authority may make certain grants; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Financial Institutions Section 13–1101(a) Annotated Code of Maryland (2003 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Financial Institutions Section 13–1101(j) Annotated Code of Maryland (2003 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Financial Institutions Section 13–1113(c) Annotated Code of Maryland (2003 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article – Financial Institutions

13 - 1101.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (J) "TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE" MEANS A SPECIFIC AREA:

(1) LOCATED WITHIN A CERTIFIED HERITAGE AREA;

(2) IDENTIFIED IN A MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVED BY THE AUTHORITY OR THROUGH A PROCESS SPECIFIED BY THE AUTHORITY; AND

(3) INTENDED TO ATTRACT SIGNIFICANT PRIVATE INVESTMENT TO THE AREA IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE DEMONSTRABLE RESULTS AND RETURN ON PUBLIC INVESTMENT WITHIN THE AREA IN A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

13–1113.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Authority may make acquisition and development grants [to a local jurisdiction or other appropriate entity under subsection (a) of this section] ONLY FOR PROJECTS IN A TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE WITHIN A CERTIFIED HERITAGE AREA for a period of up to [5] 10 years after the day on which the Authority FIRST approves [the management plan for the certified heritage area within the local jurisdiction] FUNDING FOR ACQUISITION OR DEVELOPMENT GRANTS IN:

(I) THE TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE; OR

(II) THAT PORTION OF THE TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE ADDED THROUGH A BOUNDARY AMENDMENT APPROVED BY THE AUTHORITY.

(2) The Authority may make acquisition or development grants for a project IN A TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE after the [5-year period] **10-YEAR PERIOD DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, OR OUTSIDE A TARGET INVESTMENT ZONE,** if the Authority determines that the project is essential for the success of the management plan for the certified heritage area.

(3) An acquisition or development grant:

(i) May not be used for any purpose other than implementation of the certified heritage area in conformity with the approved management plan; and

(ii) May not exceed 50% of the total project cost for which the grant is awarded.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2007.