

**HB0785/870417/1**

BY: Environmental Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 785

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Rosewood Center – Closure – Transfer to State Park System” and substitute “Commission on Land Use at the Rosewood Center”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 3 down through “system” in line 11 and substitute “establishing a Commission on Land Use at the Rosewood Center; establishing the membership of the Commission; specifying the co–chairs of the Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission; prohibiting members from receiving compensation or a certain expense reimbursement for service on the Commission; requiring the Commission to review, discuss, and analyze options for the use of the land and buildings at Rosewood Center once it closes; requiring the Commission to make certain reports to the Governor and the General Assembly by certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; providing that a certain property disposition process shall proceed after a certain report is submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly; declaring the intent of the General Assembly relating to the use of the proceeds from the disposition of the buildings and grounds at the Rosewood Center; and generally relating to the establishment of the Commission on Land Use at the Rosewood Center”; strike in their entirety lines 12 through 16, inclusive, and substitute:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, The Rosewood Center was established in 1888 as the “Asylum and Training Center for the Feeble Minded” and has operated as a State mental health facility for over 120 years in the picturesque Owings Mills area of Baltimore County; and

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WHEREAS, At its inception the Rosewood Center encompassed a 683-acre campus and at its peak consisted of 43 buildings totaling 730,000 square feet, and still today comprises 300 acres and 26 buildings in active use totaling 480,000 square feet; and

WHEREAS, Many of the buildings currently in use at the Rosewood Center date to the 1950s and 1960s, but at least one dates back to 1895; and

WHEREAS, On January 15, 2008, Governor O'Malley issued an Executive Order to close Rosewood Center and relocate its residents over an 18-month period, with most residents transitioning to community placements that provide the appropriate services and setting; and

WHEREAS, Although at one time Rosewood was home to nearly 3,000 individuals, it is currently licensed to serve a total of 225 residents and on January 15, 2008, had 156 individuals in residence; and

WHEREAS, Over the years a substantial portion of the original acreage of the Rosewood Center property has been transferred through the State surplus property disposition process for use as a veterans' cemetery, a nature center, and for school-related purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Governor has expressed a strong commitment to work with Baltimore County officials and community residents to plan for the future use of the remaining Rosewood Center property; and

WHEREAS, Baltimore County officials and residents in the community are keenly interested in the future uses of the Rosewood Center property and strongly desire to partner with State officials to chart potential appropriate public uses for the property, including possible use as open space and parkland; now, therefore,";

and in line 18, strike "the Laws of Maryland read as follows".

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 19 on page 1 through line 8 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

- “(a) There is a Commission on Land Use at the Rosewood Center.
- (b) The Commission shall consist of the following members:
- (1) Four members of the General Assembly, including:
- (i) The Senator who represents the legislative district in which the Rosewood Center is located; and
- (ii) The three members of the House of Delegates who represent the legislative district in which the Rosewood Center is located;
- (2) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary’s designee;
- (3) The Director of the Developmental Disabilities Administration, or the Director’s designee;
- (4) The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary’s designee;
- (5) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary’s designee;
- (6) The following members appointed by the Governor:
- (i) Five individuals who reside in the community surrounding the Rosewood Center;

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(ii) One representative of the developmental disabilities community;

(iii) One individual with expertise in issues relating to transportation in the northwest Baltimore County area;

(iv) One individual with expertise in issues related to land use planning;

(v) Two representatives of the Baltimore County government;

(vi) One representative of the Reisterstown–Glyndon–Owings Mills Chamber of Commerce;

(vii) One representative of the Reisterstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Coordinating Council; and

(viii) One representative of the Valley’s Planning Council.

(c) The Governor shall appoint the chair of the Commission.

(d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of General Services, and the Department of Planning shall provide staff support for the Commission.

(e) A member of the Commission:

(1) May not receive compensation as a member of the Commission;  
and

(2) Is not entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Commission shall:

(1) Review, discuss, and analyze options for the use of the land and buildings at the Rosewood Center once it is closed; and

(2) Make recommendations about how the property could best be used once the Rosewood Center is closed.

(g) (1) On or before January 1, 2009, the Commission shall submit an interim report of its activities, together with any interim findings and recommendations it wishes to put forth, to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

(2) On or before January 1, 2010, the Commission shall submit a final report of its activities, findings, and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State property disposition process through the Department of Planning, the Department of General Services, and the Department of Transportation for the buildings and grounds at the Rosewood Center shall proceed after the final report of the Commission on Land Use at the Rosewood Center, established under Section 1 of this Act, has been submitted to the Governor and to the General Assembly in accordance with this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the proceeds from the disposition of the buildings and grounds at the Rosewood Center shall be dedicated to the Community Services Trust Fund for its intended purposes.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30,

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2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.