

# HOUSE BILL 208

M4

8lr0346

---

By: **Delegates Riley, Beitzel, Norman, James, Jennings, McComas, Smigiel, and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2008

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2008

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture - ~~Seed and Nursery Stock for Native Plants - Funding Wild~~**  
3 **Pollinators Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing, subject to funding in the State budget, the Maryland  
5 ~~Native Plants~~ Wild Pollinators Program for certain purposes; requiring the  
6 Department of Agriculture to increase awareness and availability of ~~native~~  
7 ~~plants~~ noninvasive plants that are pollinator friendly and provide certain grants  
8 under the Program; ~~requiring the Governor to include a certain appropriation~~  
9 ~~for the Program in the State budget for certain fiscal years~~; and generally  
10 relating to increasing ~~the availability of seed and nursery stock for certain~~  
11 ~~native plants~~ awareness of wild pollinators and availability of noninvasive  
12 plants that are pollinator friendly.

13 BY adding to

14 Article - Agriculture

15 Section 2-1301 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 13. Maryland ~~Native~~  
16 ~~Plants~~ Wild Pollinators Program"

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2007 Replacement Volume)

19 Preamble

20 WHEREAS, Pollinators are in precipitous decline around the world; and

21 WHEREAS, Nearly 80% of the world's crop plants require pollination; and

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 WHEREAS, One of the obstacles to protecting and improving pollinator habitat  
 2 is a chronic shortage of ~~native~~ noninvasive plants that are pollinator friendly,  
 3 including seed and nursery stock for ~~native plants~~ noninvasive plants that are  
 4 pollinator friendly; now, therefore,

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

7 **Article - Agriculture**

8 **SUBTITLE 13. MARYLAND ~~NATIVE PLANTS~~ WILD POLLINATORS PROGRAM.**

9 **2-1301.**

10 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE, "PROGRAM" MEANS THE MARYLAND ~~NATIVE~~  
 11 ~~PLANTS~~ WILD POLLINATORS PROGRAM.

12 (B) ~~THERE SUBJECT TO FUNDING IN THE STATE BUDGET, THERE IS A~~  
 13 ~~MARYLAND~~ ~~NATIVE PLANTS~~ WILD POLLINATORS PROGRAM WHICH IS  
 14 ESTABLISHED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING ~~THE~~  
 15 ~~AVAILABILITY OF SEED AND NURSERY STOCK FOR NATIVE~~ AWARENESS OF WILD  
 16 POLLINATORS AND THE AVAILABILITY OF NONINVASIVE PLANTS THAT ARE  
 17 POLLINATOR FRIENDLY.

18 (C) UNDER THE PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

19 (1) INCREASE AWARENESS AMONG NURSERIES AND LAND  
 20 MANAGERS OF ~~NATIVE PLANTS~~ NONINVASIVE PLANTS THAT ARE POLLINATOR  
 21 FRIENDLY; AND

22 (2) PROVIDE GRANTS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF SEED  
 23 AND NURSERY STOCK FOR ~~NATIVE PLANTS~~ NONINVASIVE PLANTS THAT ARE  
 24 POLLINATOR FRIENDLY.

25 ~~(D) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET~~  
 26 ~~FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING WITH FISCAL YEAR 2010 AN~~  
 27 ~~APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.~~

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 29 October 1, 2008.