CHAPTER 310

(House Bill 1151)

AN ACT concerning

Worcester County - Property Tax Credit - Historically Operated Amusement Park

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Worcester County or of a municipal corporation in Worcester County to grant, by law, a property tax credit for certain real property used as an amusement park; authorizing the county or municipal corporation to provide, by law, for the amount and duration of the credit and for certain provisions necessary to carry out the credit; defining a certain term; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to authorization for a local property tax credit for certain property in Worcester County that is used as a historically operated amusement park.

BY adding to

Article – Tax – Property Section 9–325(c) Annotated Code of Maryland (2007 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - Tax - Property

9 - 325.

- (C) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "HISTORICALLY OPERATED AMUSEMENT PARK" MEANS REAL PROPERTY THAT IS USED FOR MECHANICAL AMUSEMENT RIDES, GAMES, AND CONCESSIONS THAT:
- (I) HAVE BEEN CONTINUOUSLY OWNED BY MEMBERS OF THE SAME FAMILY OR BY ENTITIES OF WHICH MEMBERS OF THE SAME FAMILY OWN A CONTROLLING INTEREST;
- (II) HAVE BEEN OPERATED AT THE SAME GENERAL LOCATION FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 100 YEARS AND CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED AT THE SAME GENERAL LOCATION; AND

- (III) HAVE CREATED A TOURIST DESTINATION AT A BOARDWALK.
- (2) THE GOVERNING BODY OF WORCESTER COUNTY OR OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN WORCESTER COUNTY MAY GRANT, BY LAW, A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT AGAINST THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON REAL PROPERTY THAT IS ACTUALLY USED AS A HISTORICALLY OPERATED AMUSEMENT PARK.
- (3) THE GOVERNING BODY OF WORCESTER COUNTY OR OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN WORCESTER COUNTY MAY PROVIDE, BY LAW, FOR:
- (I) THE AMOUNT AND DURATION OF THE PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION;
- (II) ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION;
- (III) <u>REGULATIONS AND</u> PROCEDURES FOR THE APPLICATION AND <u>UNIFORM</u> PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR THE TAX CREDIT; AND
- (IV) ANY OTHER PROVISION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2008, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2008.