

CHAPTER 75

(House Bill 445)

AN ACT concerning

Property Tax Credits – St. Mary’s County – Land Preservation Easements

FOR the purpose of altering certain authority for the governing body of St. Mary’s County to grant a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on certain property that is subject to certain preservation programs; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to property tax credits for property subject to a land preservation program in St. Mary’s County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Tax – Property

Section 9–320(a)

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

9–320.

(a) (1) The governing body of St. Mary’s County may grant, by law, a property tax credit under this section against county property tax imposed on:

(i) property that is:

1. owned by the St. George’s Island Improvement Association, Incorporated; and

2. used only for community or civic purposes;

(ii) real property that is owned by the Seventh District Optimist Youth Foundation, Inc.;

(iii) [real property that is subject to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation District Program or the St. Mary’s County Agricultural Land Preservation District 5–year Program] **REAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING ANY IMPROVEMENTS, THAT IS SUBJECT TO A STATE OR A COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM;** and

- (iv) real property that:
 - 1. was formerly used solely as a tobacco barn; and
 - 2. is subject to a tobacco buyout agreement.

(2) In authorizing a credit under paragraph (1)(iv) of this subsection, the governing body of the county may provide, by law, for:

- (i) the amount of the credit;
- (ii) the duration of the credit; and
- (iii) any other provision necessary to administer the credit.

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 8, 2008.