

HOUSE BILL 973

M4

9lr2954

By: **Delegate V. Clagett**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2009

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Horse Industry Fund – Assessments on Commercial Equine Feed**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of the assessment that the Secretary of
4 Agriculture may impose on commercial equine feed sold in the State; and
5 generally relating to the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to impose
6 assessments on commercial equine feed.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Agriculture
9 Section 6–107.2
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Agriculture**

15 6–107.2.

16 (a) The Secretary may establish an assessment of up to [\$2] **\$6** per ton on
17 commercial equine feed that is sold in Maryland.

18 (b) The assessment shall be paid by the person registering the feed according
19 to the collection and reporting guidelines established by the Secretary by regulation.

20 (c) Any assessments collected shall be paid into the Maryland Horse
21 Industry Fund as provided in § 2–708.2 of this article.

22 (d) The Secretary shall adopt regulations to:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) Allow a person who purchases commercial equine feed in the State
2 to request reimbursement of any assessment that was paid on the feed; and

3 (2) Require that a purchaser of feed be notified, at the point of sale, of
4 the possibility of reimbursement.

5 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, any funds collected
6 under this section may be used only for education, research, and promotional
7 materials and activities intended to benefit the Maryland equine industry.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2009.