

Chapter 164

(House Bill 822)

AN ACT concerning

Queen Anne's County – Arts and Entertainment District

FOR the purpose of providing that in Queen Anne's County, the governing body may establish an arts and entertainment district composed of noncontiguous areas in the county, including noncontiguous areas in a municipal corporation in the county, subject to the designation of the Secretary of Business and Economic Development; requiring the governing body of Queen Anne's County to comply with certain application procedures; and generally relating to arts and entertainment districts in Queen Anne's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Economic Development
Section 4–703 and 4–704
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Economic Development
Section 4–705
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Economic Development

4–703.

(a) The following political subdivisions may apply to the Secretary to designate an arts and entertainment district:

- (1) a political subdivision for an area within that political subdivision;
- (2) with the prior consent of the municipal corporation, a county, on its own behalf or on behalf of a municipal corporation, for an area in the municipal corporation; or

(3) two or more political subdivisions jointly for an area astride their common boundaries.

(b) The application shall:

(1) be in the form and manner and contain the information that the Secretary requires by regulation;

(2) contain sufficient information to allow the Secretary to determine if the proposed district qualifies under §§ 4–701(c) and 4–704(a) of this subtitle; and

(3) be submitted for a political subdivision by its chief elected officer or, if none, its governing body.

4–704.

(a) The Secretary may designate an area as an arts and entertainment district only if the area is a contiguous geographic area that is wholly within a priority funding area as provided under § 5–7B–02 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

(b) (1) Within 60 days after a submission date, the Secretary may designate one or more arts and entertainment districts from among the areas in the applications timely submitted.

(2) A county may not receive more than one arts and entertainment district designation in a calendar year.

(c) The designation of the Secretary is final.

(d) At any time, a political subdivision may reapply to the Secretary to designate as an arts and entertainment district an area that is not so designated.

4–705.

(A) A political subdivision may apply to the Secretary to expand an existing arts and entertainment district in the same manner as the political subdivision would apply to designate a new arts and entertainment district.

(B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION AND § 4–704(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, THE GOVERNING BODY MAY ESTABLISH AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT COMPOSED OF NONCONTIGUOUS AREAS IN THE COUNTY, INCLUDING NONCONTIGUOUS AREAS WITHIN A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN THE COUNTY, SUBJECT TO THE

SECRETARY'S DESIGNATION OF THE DISTRICT AS AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY.

(2) IN APPLYING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY GOVERNING BODY SHALL COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF § 4-703 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, April 13, 2010.