

Chapter 317

(House Bill 631)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Park Advisory Commission – Membership

FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Park Advisory Commission in the Department of Natural Resources; repealing certain obsolete language; and generally relating to the Park Advisory Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 5–204
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

5–204.

- (a) (1) There is a Sustainable Forestry Council in the Department.
- (2) The purpose of the Council is to advise the Department on all matters related to:
 - (i) Sustainable forestry management in the State;
 - (ii) The expenditure of funds from the Woodland Incentives Fund under § 5–307 of this title;
 - (iii) Existing regulatory and statutory policies that are perceived as economic barriers to a viable forest products industry;
 - (iv) New markets to enhance forest health, including renewable energy development through biomass energy, to offset fossil fuel consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (v) Creative strategies to help privately owned forest lands better compete with real estate market values that are driving forest conversion and fragmentation;

(vi) The means to promote forest-based economies and processing capability that contribute to economic and employment growth; and

(vii) Assigning a nutrient efficiency benefit to forest stewardship plans and other forest conservation management plans that can be measurably tracked and reported by the number of forested acres covered by the plans.

(b) There is a Park Advisory Commission in the Department.

(c) (1) The Sustainable Forestry Council shall have 9 members.

(2) Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(d) **(1)** [From and after July 1, 1988, the] **THE** Park Advisory Commission shall have [9] **12** members.

(2) Members of the Park Advisory Commission shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

[(e) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, a member of the Park Advisory Commission as of June 30, 1988, may serve the unexpired remainder of his term as a member of an advisory commission created by law.]

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

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2010.