

# HOUSE BILL 256

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By: **The Speaker (By Request – Department of Legislative Services)**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Horse Industry Board – Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation**

3 FOR the purpose of continuing the Maryland Horse Industry Board in accordance with  
4 the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by  
5 extending to a certain date the termination provisions relating to the statutory  
6 and regulatory authority of the Board; repealing a certain restriction on the use  
7 of certain funds generated by commercial equine feed assessments; requiring  
8 that an evaluation of the Board be performed on or before a certain date;  
9 requiring the Board to submit a certain report to certain committees of the  
10 General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the  
11 Maryland Horse Industry Board.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Agriculture  
14 Section 2–719 and 6–107.2  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – State Government  
19 Section 8–403(a)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
23 Article – State Government  
24 Section 8–403(b)(26)  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Agriculture**

4 2–719.

5 Subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Program  
6 Evaluation Act, the provisions of this subtitle and of any rule or regulation adopted  
7 under this subtitle shall terminate and be of no effect after July 1, [2016] **2026**.

8 6–107.2.

9 (a) The Secretary may establish an assessment of up to \$6 per ton on  
10 commercial equine feed that is sold in Maryland.

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

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

15 (d) The Secretary shall adopt regulations to:

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

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

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

23 **Article – State Government**

24 8–403.

25 (a) On or before December 15 of the evaluation year specified, the  
26 Department shall:

27 (1) conduct a preliminary evaluation of each governmental activity or  
28 unit to be evaluated under this section; and

29 (2) prepare a report on each preliminary evaluation conducted.

1           (b) Each of the following governmental activities or units and the statutes  
2 and regulations that relate to the governmental activities or units are subject to  
3 preliminary evaluation in the evaluation year specified:

4                   (26) Horse Industry Board, Maryland (§ 2-701 of the Agriculture  
5 Article: **[2013] 2023**);

6           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before October 1,  
7 2015, the Maryland Horse Industry Board shall report to the Senate Education,  
8 Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environmental Matters  
9 Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the  
10 Board's use of its civil enforcement authority and the Board's progress in balancing its  
11 revenues and expenditures once contractual expenses for the Maryland horse park  
12 study end.

13           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 July 1, 2014.