

Chapter 661

(Senate Bill 257)

AN ACT concerning

**Program Open Space – Authorized Transfer to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund – Increase**

FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum amount that may be transferred, in the State budget or through a certain budget amendment process, to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund from certain funds that are distributed to Program Open Space; requiring that, if more than a certain amount of funding is transferred to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Fund in accordance with this Act, a certain amount of the funding be provided from the State’s share of funds; and generally relating to an authorization to transfer certain funds distributed to Program Open Space to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Natural Resources  
Section 5–903(a)(1)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

**Article – Natural Resources**

5–903.

(a) (1) **(I) ~~Of~~ SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, OF** the funds distributed to Program Open Space under § 13–209 of the Tax – Property Article, up to **[\$3,000,000] \$6,000,000** may be transferred by an appropriation in the State budget, or by an amendment to the State budget under Title 7, Subtitle 2 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund established under Title 13, Subtitle 11 of the Financial Institutions Article to be used for the purposes provided in that subtitle.

**(II) IF THE AMOUNT TRANSFERRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH EXCEEDS \$3,000,000, THE AMOUNT EXCEEDING \$3,000,000 SHALL BE PROVIDED FROM THE STATE’S SHARE OF FUNDS.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

**Approved by the Governor, May 25, 2017.**