

# HOUSE BILL 860

M4, M3

1lr2377  
CF SB 692

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By: **Delegate Gilchrist**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 3, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Planning – Preservation of Agricultural Land – Goal**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a State goal of preserving a certain amount of productive  
4 agricultural land by a certain year through certain programs; declaring the intent of  
5 the General Assembly; and generally relating to the preservation of agricultural  
6 land.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – State Finance and Procurement

9 Section 5–7A–03

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

15 **5–7A–03.**

16 **THE STATE HAS A GOAL OF PRESERVING A TOTAL OF 1,030,000 ACRES OF**  
17 **PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LAND BY 2030 THROUGH:**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           (1) THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION  
2 FOUNDATION;

3           (2) THE MARYLAND GREENPRINT PROGRAM;

4           (3) THE RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM;

5           (4) THE MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST; ~~AND~~

6           (5) THE NEXT GENERATION FARMLAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM;

7 AND

8           ~~(5)~~ (6) LOCAL LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAMS.

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General  
10 Assembly that this Act shall be construed as extending the deadline to meet the State’s  
11 agricultural land preservation goal set under Joint Resolutions 16 and 17 of the Acts of  
12 2002, from 2022 to 2030, and to include acres preserved through the Maryland  
13 Environmental Trust and the Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program as  
14 contributing toward the goal.

15           SECTION ~~2.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
16 October 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.