SENATE BILL 538

By: Senators Carozza, Corderman, and Gallion
Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2022
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Land Use – Agritourism – Definition

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “agritourism” to include special events and occasions conducted on a farm that generates income from an agricultural activity; and generally relating to agritourism.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Land Use
Section 4–212
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Land Use

4–212.

(a) (1) In this section, “agritourism” means an activity conducted on a farm that is offered to a member of the general public or to invited guests for the purpose of education, recreation, or active involvement in the farm operation.

(2) “Agritourism” includes:

(i) farm tours;

(ii) hayrides;

(iii) corn mazes;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
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(iv) seasonal petting farms;

(v) farm museums;

(vi) guest farms;

(vii) pumpkin patches;

(viii) “pick your own” or “cut your own” produce;

(ix) classes related to agricultural products or skills; [and]

(x) picnic and party facilities offered in conjunction with any agritourism activity; AND

(XI) SPECIAL EVENTS AND OCCASIONS CONDUCTED ON A FARM THAT GENERATES INCOME FROM AN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY.

(b) A local jurisdiction may adopt the definition of “agritourism” as defined in this section by local ordinance, resolution, law, or rule.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.