

**HB0152/633622/1**

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 152

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**Delegate Wells**” and substitute “**Delegates Wells, Addison, Allen, Baker, Barve, Boyce, Ciliberti, Foley, Guyton, Healey, Holmes, Jacobs, Lehman, Love, T. Morgan, Nawrocki, Otto, Ruth, Stewart, Terrasa, and Ziegler**”; in line 2, strike “**Fund**” and substitute “**Programs – Alterations**”; in line 4, after the semicolon insert “repealing a requirement that the Department of Agriculture adopt certain regulations to provide grants under the Fund; establishing the Urban Agriculture Advisory Committee to make certain recommendations on the implementation of the Urban Agriculture Grant Program; altering the definition of “urban agricultural producer” under the Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program;”; in line 5, strike “the Urban Agriculture Grant Fund” and substitute “urban agriculture grant programs in the Department of Agriculture”; in line 8, strike “and 2–2002” and substitute “, 2–2002, 2–2101(a), and 2–2102”; and in line 18, strike “and 2–2004” and substitute “2–2004, and 2–2101(f)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 8, strike “**DELINEATED**” and substitute “:

**(1) DELINEATED**”;

and in line 9, after “**BUREAU**” insert “**;** **OR**

**(2) WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**”.

On page 3, in line 6, strike “**\$250,000**” and substitute “**AT LEAST \$100,000**”.

**HB0152/633622/01 Environment and Transportation Committee  
Amendments to HB 152  
Page 2 of 5**

On pages 3 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 7 on page 3 through line 17 on page 5, inclusive, and substitute:

**“(H) (1) THERE IS AN URBAN AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND GUIDELINES, POLICIES, AND PRACTICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URBAN AGRICULTURE GRANT PROGRAM.**

**(2) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

**(I) FIVE MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY, WITH EXPERTISE IN URBAN AGRICULTURE OR WORKING WITH SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS WHO RESIDE IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, BALTIMORE CITY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OR PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY;**

**(II) TWO MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY, WITH EXPERTISE IN PROVIDING EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO URBAN FARMERS THROUGH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION OR AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;**

**(III) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION;**

**(IV) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MARYLAND STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP); AND**

**(V) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING FOR THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.**

(3) THE SECRETARY SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMITTEE.

(5) A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE:

(i) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE; BUT

(ii) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(6) THE COMMITTEE SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT:

(i) ESTABLISH A COMPETITIVE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS THAT PRIORITIZES APPLICATIONS THAT BENEFIT SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED URBAN FARMERS TO:

1. SECURE REAL PROPERTY:

A. THAT HAS ESTABLISHED THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO GROW FOOD;

B. FOR WHICH THE GRANTEE IS THE STEWARD OF THE REAL PROPERTY; AND

(Over)

C. FOR WHICH NOT MORE THAN 20% OF THE GRANT MONEY WILL BE USED TO SECURE PROPERTY;

2. MAINTAIN SAFE, ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE, AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES; AND

3. MAKE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT VIABLE URBAN AGRICULTURE ENTERPRISES;

(II) REQUIRE THAT GRANT APPLICATIONS DEMONSTRATE A MEASURABLE COMMUNITY BENEFIT, WHICH MAY INCLUDE IMPROVING LOCAL FOOD ACCESS; AND

(III) PROHIBIT GRANT RECIPIENTS FROM USING MORE THAN 15% OF THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT FOR OPERATING EXPENSES.

(7) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 30, 2023, AND EACH DECEMBER 30 THEREAFTER, THE URBAN AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 6, after line 9, insert:

“2-2101.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(f) “Urban agricultural producer” means any person that:

**HB0152/633622/01 Environment and Transportation Committee**  
**Amendments to HB 152**  
**Page 5 of 5**

(1) Annually produces farm products in an area of the State [delineated] THAT IS:

**(I) DELINEATED as an urban area by the U.S. Census Bureau;**  
**OR**

**(II) WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION; and**

(2) Sells, plans to sell, or normally would have sold at least \$1,000 annually of farm products produced from a farming operation in the State.

2-2102.

(a) There is an Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program in the Department.

(b) The purpose of the Program is to increase the viability of urban farming and community gardens and improve access to urban-grown foods.”;

and in line 11, strike “October” and substitute “July”.