

# HOUSE BILL 32

E4

(PRE-FILED)

3lr0653  
CF SB 124

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By: **Delegate Charkoudian**

Requested: October 31, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Food System Resiliency Council**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council is in  
4 the Office of Resilience in the Maryland Department of Emergency Management;  
5 altering the process for electing a cochair of the Council; and generally relating to  
6 the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 14–1101 and 14–1102

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 14–1101.

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

17 (b) “Council” means the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council.

18 (c) [“Director” means the Director of the Maryland Emergency Management  
19 Agency.

20 (d)] “Food council organization” means a local food council organization that is  
21 established in the State.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 14-1102.

2 (a) There is a Maryland Food System Resiliency Council **IN THE OFFICE OF**  
3 **RESILIENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

4 (b) The Council consists of the following members:

5 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
6 the Senate;

7 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
8 House;

9 (3) the **[Director] SECRETARY**, or the **[Director's] SECRETARY'S**  
10 designee;

11 (4) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;

12 (5) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

13 (6) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

14 (7) the Executive Director of the Maryland Farm Bureau, or the Executive  
15 Director's designee;

16 (8) the Executive Director of the Maryland Agricultural and  
17 Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation, or the Executive Director's designee;

18 (9) the Dean of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and  
19 Natural Resources, or the Dean's designee; and

20 (10) the following members appointed by the **[Director] SECRETARY**:

21 (i) five representatives of five different food council organizations  
22 who are recommended by members of food council organizations;

23 (ii) one representative of the University of Maryland Extension;

24 (iii) one representative of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore  
25 Small Farm Program;

26 (iv) one representative of the Harry R. Hughes Center for  
27 Agro-Ecology;

28 (v) one representative of a public school system in the State who has  
29 experience in food security and local food procurement;

- 1 (vi) one representative of a statewide food security advocacy  
2 organization;
- 3 (vii) one farmer in the State;
- 4 (viii) one owner of a food business in the State;
- 5 (ix) one expert in food system policy;
- 6 (x) one expert on racial equity in the food system;
- 7 (xi) one expert on food system impacts on climate and the  
8 environment;
- 9 (xii) one expert on food nutrition and public health; and
- 10 (xiii) any other individual that the [Director] **SECRETARY** deems  
11 appropriate.

12 (c) The [Director] **SECRETARY** shall:

13 (1) ensure that all five geographic areas of the State are represented by the  
14 appointed members of the Council; and

15 (2) appoint a successor in the event of a vacancy on the Council.

16 (d) (1) (i) The term of a member of the Council appointed by the [Director]  
17 **SECRETARY** is 3 years.

18 (ii) An appointed member may not serve for more than 2 consecutive  
19 three year terms.

20 (2) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is  
21 appointed and qualifies.

22 (3) A member who is appointed after a term has begun shall serve for the  
23 rest of the term or until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

24 (e) A member of the Council:

25 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Council; but

26 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
27 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State Budget.

28 (f) A majority of the members then serving on the Council is a quorum.

1 (g) (1) (i) The [Director] **SECRETARY**, or the [Director's] **SECRETARY'S**  
2 designee, and one member [representing a food council organization] who is elected in  
3 accordance with subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph shall cochair the Council.

4 (ii) At the first meeting of each year, the Council shall elect a cochair  
5 from among the [five] Council members [representing food council organizations] for a  
6 term of 1 year.

7 (2) The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee, the Secretary  
8 of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee, and the Dean of the University of Maryland  
9 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or the Dean's designee shall co-vice chair  
10 the Council.

11 (h) (1) The Council may establish subcommittees to provide technical  
12 assistance to the Council.

13 (2) The Council may establish subcommittee topics and membership as the  
14 Council deems appropriate.

15 (i) The [Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the University of  
16 Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources] **DEPARTMENT** shall provide staff  
17 for the Council[, as deemed necessary by the cochairs].

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2023.