

Chapter 602

(Senate Bill 517)

AN ACT concerning

Port of Deposit State Historical Park – ~~Included Areas~~ Planning

FOR the purpose of altering the ~~areas included in the Port of Deposit State Historical Park;~~ authorizing, rather than requiring, the Bainbridge Development Corporation to transfer a certain portion of a certain site to the Department of Natural Resources on or before a certain date; composition of the stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Department of Natural Resources on the scope and management of Port of Deposit State Historical Park; requiring the Department to make a certain report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; altering the deadline for the Bainbridge Development Corporation to transfer certain property to the Department; requiring the Department to preserve certain property in a certain manner; authorizing the Governor to include, for a certain fiscal year, a certain appropriation in the State budget to the Department for a certain archaeological survey and soil study; and generally relating to the Port of Deposit State Historical Park.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 5–1012(g)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section ~~5–1012(g)(2)~~ 5–1012(g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 39 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2022
Section 5

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

Article – Natural Resources

5–1012.

(g) (1) (i) The Department shall establish the Port of Deposit State Historical Park as a partnership park that seeks to educate the public about and preserve

and interpret the lives and experiences of Black Americans both before and after the abolition of slavery.

(ii) Port of Deposit State Historical Park shall be held by the State as a State park under the protection and administration of the Department.

(2) Port of Deposit State Historical Park shall consist of a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site, measuring ~~¶~~not less than 120 acres and~~¶~~ not more than 150 acres, that the Bainbridge Development Corporation transfers to the Department, including:

(i) ~~¶~~The historic Tome School;

(ii)~~¶~~ The Snow Hill archaeological site; and

~~¶(iii)¶~~ ~~(H)~~ The adjacent wooded conservation area.

(3) (i) The Department shall establish a stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Department on the scope and management of Port of Deposit State Historical Park.

(ii) The stakeholder advisory committee shall consist of the following members:

1. One member designated by the Mayor and Town Council of Port Deposit;

2. Two members OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND REPRESENTING CECIL COUNTY, designated by the Cecil County Delegation of the General Assembly;

3. The County Executive of Cecil County, or the County Executive's designee;

4. The President of the Cecil County Council, or the President's designee;

5. The President of the Cecil County branch of the NAACP, or the President's designee;

6. The President of the Historical Society of Cecil County, or the President's designee;

7. The Director of the Cecil County Department of Parks and Recreation;

8. THE CHAIR OF THE BAINBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, OR THE CHAIR’S DESIGNEE;

9. THE CHIEF ARCHAEOLOGIST OF THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, OR THE CHIEF ARCHAEOLOGIST’S DESIGNEE; AND

[8.] 10. The following nonvoting ex officio members:

A. The Secretary, or the Secretary’s designee;

B. THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;

C. THE SECRETARY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;

D. THE SECRETARY OF PLANNING, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;

[B.] E. The Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, or the Director’s designee;

[C.] F. The President of the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, or the President’s designee;

[D.] G. The Superintendent of Cecil County Public Schools;

[E.] H. The Executive Director of the Cecil County Public Library; and

[F.] I. The President of Cecil College]; and

9. Any other members as determined by the Department].

(iii) To the extent practicable, the stakeholder advisory committee shall reflect the diversity of Cecil County.

(4) On or before [January 1, 2023] SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, the Department shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article on:

(i) Property that is suitable for inclusion in Port of Deposit State Historical Park; [and]

(ii) The funding needed to establish and promote Port of Deposit State Historical Park; AND

(iii) THE APPROPRIATE MANNER OF PRESERVING PROPERTY THAT IS NOT IDENTIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN PORT OF DEPOSIT STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN PERPETUITY FOR ITS ARCHAEOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL, AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Chapter 39 of the Acts of 2022

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, ~~That, on~~ THAT:

(A) ON or before June 1, [2023] ~~2024~~ 2025, the Bainbridge Development Corporation ~~shall~~ MAY transfer to the Department of Natural Resources a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site consisting of ~~[not less than 120 acres and]~~ not more than 150 acres, including:

- (1) ~~the~~ historic Tome School;
- (2) ~~the~~ Snow Hill archaeological site; and
- ~~(3)~~ (2) the adjacent wooded conservation area.

(B) ANY PROPERTY TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES UNDER THIS SECTION THAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN PORT OF DEPOSIT STATE HISTORICAL PARK SHALL BE PRESERVED IN PERPETUITY FOR ITS ARCHAEOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL, AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 5-1012(G) OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for fiscal year 2025, the Governor may include in the annual State budget an appropriation of at least \$400,000 to the Department of Natural Resources to conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Survey and Soil Study for the Tome School and Snow Hill sites.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2023.