

# HOUSE BILL 812

M4, C8

4lr2787  
CF SB 589

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By: **Delegates J. Long, Davis, Harris, T. Morgan, and Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2024

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland – Southern Maryland Agricultural**  
3 **Development Commission – Funding**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of an appropriation that the Governor is required  
5 to include in the annual budget bill each year for the Tri-County Council for  
6 Southern Maryland; repealing the termination of certain provisions of law that  
7 require the Governor to include the appropriation in the annual budget bill each year  
8 and the Council to use the appropriation to fund the activities of the Southern  
9 Maryland Agricultural Development Commission; and generally relating to the  
10 Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland and the Southern Maryland Agricultural  
11 Development Commission.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – Economic Development  
14 Section 13-601(a) and (c)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article – Economic Development  
19 Section 13-611(b)(3)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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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 Chapter 187 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2022  
2 Section 2

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

5 **Article – Economic Development**

6 13–601.

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

8 (c) “Council” means the Tri–County Council for Southern Maryland.

9 13–611.

10 (b) (3) (i) The Governor shall include in the State budget for the following  
11 fiscal year an appropriation to partially support the Council.

12 (ii) 1. For fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, the  
13 Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of ~~[\$900,000]~~  
14 **\$1,000,000** to the Council from the Cigarette Restitution Fund established under § 7–317  
15 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

16 ~~2. THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL~~  
17 ~~BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION EQUAL TO 5% OF THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO~~  
18 ~~THE STATE FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR UNDER THE MASTER SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT~~  
19 ~~AS DEFINED IN § 16 402 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE TO THE COUNCIL~~  
20 ~~FROM THE CIGARETTE RESTITUTION FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7 317 OF THE~~  
21 ~~STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.~~

22 ~~{2.} 3.~~ The Council shall use funds appropriated from the  
23 Cigarette Restitution Fund for the purpose of funding the activities of the Southern  
24 Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

25 ~~{3.} 4.~~ The appropriation required under subparagraph 1 of  
26 this subparagraph shall be in addition to, and may not supplant, any funding appropriated  
27 to the Council.

28 **Chapter 187 of the Acts of 2022**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
30 1, 2022. [It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2025,  
31 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
32 of no further force and effect.]

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.