

HB1228/793527/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1228
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after “Commerce” insert “, in coordination with certain county agencies and organizations,”; and in the same line, after “study” insert “economic development in and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 7, after “Commerce” insert “, in coordination with the Montgomery County Planning Board, the Montgomery County Office of Agricultural Services, the University of Maryland Extension – Montgomery County, and Visit Montgomery,”; in the same line, after “study” insert “economic development in and”; in line 9, strike “sector of” and substitute “impact on”; in line 10, strike “sectors” and substitute “impacts”; in line 11, strike “sector” and substitute “impact”; after line 13, insert:

“(b) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the Department of Commerce, the Montgomery County Planning Board, the Montgomery County Office of Agricultural Services, the University of Maryland Extension – Montgomery County, and Visit Montgomery shall:

(1) examine how tourists and visitors view the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve, including why they visit, where they come from, and what attractions they find most compelling and why;

(2) (i) identify the small businesses, recreation sites, and historic sites that are located in the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve; and

HB1228/793527/01 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 1228
Page 2 of 3

(ii) 1. analyze how tourism and visitors contribute to these operations and their success;

2. assess and evaluate the barriers that may deter visitors from coming to the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve; and

3. develop an overall assessment of economic development and the economic impact of tourism in the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve; and

(3) make recommendations regarding policies and programs that can help promote and preserve the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve and better support the small businesses, recreation sites, and historic sites that depend on the visitor and tourist economy.

(c) In meeting the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the Department of Commerce, the Montgomery County Planning Board, the Montgomery County Office of Agricultural Services, the University of Maryland Extension – Montgomery County, and Visit Montgomery shall, if data is available or the action required is necessary:

(1) work with relevant local organizations to gather information on visitor volume at the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve and other key attractions in the area and how those visitors interact with other parts of the regional economy;

(2) engage with visitors, including by surveying visitors, to gather information about visitor behavior and attitudes;

(3) consider whether in-depth interviews with residents, businesses, and other stakeholders are necessary; and

**HB1228/793527/01 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 1228
Page 3 of 3**

(4) review existing data models to gather information on the upstream and downstream impacts of visitation to the region.”;

strike in their entirety lines 14 through 25, inclusive; in lines 26 and 28, strike “(c)” and “(d)”, respectively, and substitute “(d)” and “(e)”, respectively; in line 26, after “Commerce” insert “:

(1) shall coordinate the preparation of, synthesize, and analyze the data made available for the study required under subsection (a) of this section; and

(2)”;

in line 28, strike “(1)”;

and in line 29, after “under” insert “subsection (a) of”.

On pages 2 and 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 32 on page 2 through line 15 on page 3, inclusive.