C9 5 lr 0 452 CF 5 lr 0 453

By: The President (By Request - Administration) and Senators Augustine, Charles, Ellis, Gile, Henson, Kagan, and Lam

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2025 Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT co	oncerning

2	Land Use – Kegional Housing Infrastructure Gap
3	(Housing for Jobs Act)

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development 5 and the Department of Planning to calculate certain regional housing infrastructure 6 gaps; providing for the apportionment of regional housing infrastructure gaps to 7 counties and incorporated municipalities; authorizing local jurisdictions to reduce 8 local housing infrastructure gaps in a certain manner; establishing that certain local jurisdictions have an affirmative obligation to expeditiously approve housing 9 10 development project applications; prohibiting certain local jurisdictions from 11 denying certain housing development project applications without certain justifications; and generally relating to housing development and land use. 12

- 13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 14 Article Land Use
- 15 Section 1–401 and 10–103
- 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 17 (2012 Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 18 BY adding to

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- 19 Article Land Use
- Section 12–101 through 12–203 to be under the new title "Title 12. Regional Housing
- 21 Infrastructure Gap"
- 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 23 (2012 Volume and 2024 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

25 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Land Use

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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(18)

(19)

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1
     1-401.
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                  Except as provided in this section, this division does not apply to charter
           (a)
 3
     counties.
 4
           (b)
                  The following provisions of this division apply to a charter county:
                              subtitle, including Parts II and III (Charter county -
 5
                  (1)
 6
     Comprehensive plans);
 7
                  (2)
                        § 1–101(l), (m), and (o) (Definitions – "Plan", "Priority funding area",
     and "Sensitive area");
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 9
                  (3)
                        § 1–201 (Visions);
10
                  (4)
                        § 1–206 (Required education);
11
                  (5)
                        § 1–207 (Annual report – In general);
12
                  (6)
                        § 1–208 (Annual report – Measures and indicators);
13
                  (7)
                        Title 1, Subtitle 3 (Consistency);
                        Title 1, Subtitle 5 (Growth Tiers);
14
                  (8)
                        § 4–104(c) (Limitations – Bicycle Parking);
15
                  (9)
16
                  (10)
                        § 4–104(d) (Limitations – Manufactured homes and modular dwellings);
17
                  (11)
                        § 4–208 (Exceptions – Maryland Accessibility Code);
18
                  (12)
                        § 4–210 (Permits and variances – Solar panels);
                        § 4–211 (Change in zoning classification – Energy generating systems);
19
                  (13)
20
                        § 4–212 (Agritourism);
                  (14)
21
                        § 4–213 (Alcohol production);
                  (15)
22
                        § 4–214 (Agricultural alcohol production);
                  (16)
23
                  (17)
                        § 4–215 (Pollinator–friendly vegetation management);
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§ 5–102(d) (Subdivision regulations – Burial sites);

§ 5–104 (Major subdivision – Review);

(20)1 Title 7, Subtitle 1 (Development Mechanisms); 2 (21)Title 7, Subtitle 2 (Transfer of Development Rights); 3 (22)except in Montgomery County or Prince George's County, Title 7, Subtitle 3 (Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements); 4 Title 7, Subtitle 4 (Inclusionary Zoning); 5 (23)6 (24)Title 7, Subtitle 5 (Housing Expansion and Affordability); 7 § 8–401 (Conversion of overhead facilities); (25)8 (26)for Baltimore County only, Title 9, Subtitle 3 (Single-County Provisions 9 - Baltimore County); 10 for Frederick County only, Title 9, Subtitle 10 (Single-County 11 Provisions – Frederick County); 12 for Howard County only, Title 9, Subtitle 13 (Single-County Provisions 13 – Howard County); 14 for Talbot County only, Title 9, Subtitle 18 (Single-County Provisions 15 - Talbot County); [and] 16 (30)Title 11, Subtitle 2 (Civil Penalty); AND 17 (31)TITLE 12 (REGIONAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP). 18 (c) This section supersedes any inconsistent provision of Division II of this article. 10-103. 19 20 Except as provided in this section, this division does not apply to Baltimore (a) 21City. 22(b) The following provisions of this division apply to Baltimore City: 23 (1) this title; § 1–101(m) (Definitions – "Priority funding area"); 24(2) § 1–101(o) (Definitions – "Sensitive area"); 25(3) 26 **(4)** § 1–201 (Visions);

1	(5)	§ 1–206 (Required education);					
2	(6)	§ 1–207 (Annual report – In general);					
3	(7)	§ 1–208 (Annual report – Measures and indicators);					
4	(8)	Title 1, Subtitle 3 (Consistency);					
5 6	(9) Title 1, Subtitle 4, Parts II and III (Home Rule Counties Comprehensive Plans; Implementation);						
7	(10)	§ 4–104(c) (Limitations – Bicycle parking);					
8	(11)	§ 4–104(d) (Limitations – Manufactured homes and modular dwellings);					
9	(12)	§ 4–205 (Administrative adjustments);					
10	(13)	§ 4–207 (Exceptions – Maryland Accessibility Code);					
11	(14)	§ 4–210 (Permits and variances – Solar panels);					
12	(15)	§ 4–211 (Change in zoning classification – Energy generating systems);					
13	(16)	§ 4–215 (Pollinator–friendly vegetation management);					
14	(17)	§ 5–102(d) (Subdivision regulations – Burial sites);					
15	(18)	Title 7, Subtitle 1 (Development Mechanisms);					
16	(19)	Title 7, Subtitle 2 (Transfer of Development Rights);					
17 18	(20) Agreements);	Title 7, Subtitle 3 (Development Rights and Responsibilities					
19	(21)	Title 7, Subtitle 4 (Inclusionary Zoning);					
20	(22)	Title 7, Subtitle 5 (Housing Expansion and Affordability); [and]					
21	(23)	Title 11, Subtitle 2 (Civil Penalty); AND					
22	(24	TITLE 12 (REGIONAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP).					
23	Т	ITLE 12. REGIONAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP.					
24		SUBTITLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.					

- 1 **12–101.**
- 2 (A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS 3 INDICATED.
- 4 (B) "JOBS-TO-HOUSING RATIO" MEANS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JOBS BY 5 PLACE OF WORK DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS.
- 6 (C) "LOCAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP" MEANS THE SHARE OF A 7 REGIONAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP APPORTIONED TO A LOCAL 8 JURISDICTION UNDER § 12–201(B) OF THIS TITLE.
- 9 **(D)** "REGION" MEANS AN AREA DESIGNATED UNDER § 12–102 OF THIS 10 SUBTITLE.
- 11 (E) "REGIONAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP" MEANS THE NUMBER OF 12 HOUSING UNITS NEEDED FOR A REGION'S JOBS-TO-HOUSING RATIO TO BE BELOW
- 13 1.5 ACCORDING TO THE CALCULATION MADE UNDER § 12–201(A) OF THIS TITLE.
- 14 **12–102.**
- FOR PURPOSES OF THIS TITLE, REGIONS ARE DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS:
- 16 (1) THE BALTIMORE REGION INCLUDES ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY,
- 17 BALTIMORE COUNTY, CARROLL COUNTY, HARFORD COUNTY, HOWARD COUNTY,
- 18 AND BALTIMORE CITY;
- 19 (2) THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN REGION INCLUDES FREDERICK 20 COUNTY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY;
- 21 (3) THE SOUTHERN MARYLAND REGION INCLUDES CALVERT 22 COUNTY, CHARLES COUNTY, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTY;
- 23 (4) THE WESTERN MARYLAND REGION INCLUDES ALLEGANY 24 COUNTY, GARRETT COUNTY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY;
- 25 (5) THE UPPER EASTERN SHORE REGION INCLUDES CAROLINE
- 26 COUNTY, CECIL COUNTY, KENT COUNTY, QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, AND TALBOT
- 27 COUNTY; AND
- 28 (6) THE LOWER EASTERN SHORE REGION INCLUDES DORCHESTER
- 29 COUNTY, SOMERSET COUNTY, WICOMICO COUNTY, AND WORCESTER COUNTY.

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SUBTITLE 2. REQUIREMENTS.

- 2 **12–201.**
- 3 (A) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
- 4 AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING SHALL
- 5 PUBLISH, FOR EACH REGION DESIGNATED UNDER § 12–102 OF THIS TITLE:
- 6 (1) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS;
- 7 (2) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK;
- 8 (3) THE JOBS-TO-HOUSING RATIO;
- 9 (4) THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS NEEDED TO BE PRODUCED FOR
- 10 THE REGION TO REACH A JOBS-TO-HOUSING RATIO OF 1.5 OR LESS; AND
- 11 (5) THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE EXISTING NUMBER OF HOUSING
- 12 UNITS AND THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS NEEDED FOR THE REGION TO REACH A
- 13 JOBS-TO-HOUSING RATIO OF 1.5 OR LESS.
- 14 (B) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND
- 15 THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING SHALL APPORTION A REGIONAL HOUSING
- 16 INFRASTRUCTURE GAP TO:
- 17 (1) EACH COUNTY BASED ON THE SHARE OF REGIONAL JOBS
- 18 LOCATED IN THE COUNTY; AND
- 19 (2) EACH INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITY BASED ON THE SHARE OF
- 20 REGIONAL JOBS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY.
- 21 **12–202**.
- 22 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
- 23 INDICATED.
- 24 (2) "AFFORDABLE" MEANS THAT HOUSING COSTS DO NOT EXCEED
- 25 30% OF A HOUSEHOLD'S INCOME.
- 26 (3) "AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT" MEANS A DWELLING UNIT THAT IS
- 27 DEED-RESTRICTED TO BE AFFORDABLE TO A HOUSEHOLD EARNING 60% OR LESS
- 28 OF THE AREA MEDIAN INCOME FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST 40 YEARS.

- 1 (4) "AREA MEDIAN INCOME" MEANS THE MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
- 2 INCOME FOR THE AREA ADJUSTED FOR HOUSEHOLD SIZE AS PUBLISHED AND
- 3 ANNUALLY UPDATED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
- 4 DEVELOPMENT.
- 5 (5) "HOUSING UNIT BUILT" MEANS A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED OR
- 6 SUBSTANTIALLY RENOVATED RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNIT THAT HAS RECEIVED A
- 7 USE AND OCCUPANCY PERMIT FROM A LOCAL JURISDICTION ON OR AFTER JANUARY
- 8 **1, 2026.**
- 9 (6) (I) "RAIL STATION" MEANS A PRESENT OR PLANNED:
- 1. MARC STATION ALONG THE PENN, CAMDEN, OR
- 11 Brunswick lines:
- 12 **2.** BALTIMORE METRO SUBWAYLINK STATION;
- 13 BALTIMORE LIGHT RAILLINK STATION;
- 14 **METRORAIL SYSTEM STATION; OR**
- 5. ANY OTHER PASSENGER RAIL STATION.
- 16 (II) A RAIL STATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED "PLANNED" IF IT IS
- 17 ON A FINALIZED RAIL ROUTE WITH COMPLETED DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS.
- 18 (B) (1) THE NUMBER OF UNITS IN THE LOCAL HOUSING
- 19 INFRASTRUCTURE GAP MAY BE REDUCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.
- 20 (2) FOR EVERY 1 HOUSING UNIT BUILT WITHIN THREE-QUARTERS OF
- 21 A MILE OF A RAIL STATION, 1.5 HOUSING UNITS MAY BE SUBTRACTED FROM THE
- 22 LOCAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP.
- 23 (3) FOR EVERY 1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT BUILT, 1.5 HOUSING
- 24 UNITS MAY BE SUBTRACTED FROM THE LOCAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP.
- 25 (C) CALCULATIONS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE
- 26 COMBINED TO SUBTRACT MORE THAN 1.5 HOUSING UNITS FROM THE LOCAL
- 27 HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP PER 1 HOUSING UNIT BUILT.
- 28 (D) (1) IN ORDER TO REDUCE A LOCAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP
- 29 UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A LOCAL JURISDICTION SHALL SUBMIT

- 1 DOCUMENTATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
- 2 DEVELOPMENT.
- 3 (2) A SUBMISSION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION
- 4 SHALL BE IN THE FORM AND MANNER THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
- 5 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES.
- 6 **12–203**.
- 7 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
- 8 INDICATED.
- 9 (2) "AREA WITH INADEQUATE WATER OR WASTEWATER FACILITIES"
- 10 MEANS:
- 11 (I) AN AREA OUTSIDE AN EXISTING OR PLANNED WATER AND
- 12 SEWER SERVICE AREA AS IDENTIFIED IN AN ADOPTED COUNTY PLAN UNDER TITLE
- 13 9, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE; OR
- 14 (II) AN AREA INSIDE AN EXISTING OR PLANNED WATER AND
- 15 SEWER SERVICE AREA AS IDENTIFIED IN AN ADOPTED COUNTY PLAN UNDER TITLE
- 16 9, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE, WHERE THE CONNECTING WATER
- 17 OR WASTEWATER FACILITY:
- 1. Does not have adequate capacity or is above
- 19 **80%** CAPACITY; AND
- 2. DOES NOT HAVE A CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
- 21 APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT.
- 22 (3) "AREA ZONED FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIAL USE" MEANS AN AREA
- 23 **THAT:**
- 24 (I) DOES NOT ALLOW RESIDENTIAL USES; AND
- 25 (II) ALLOWS FOR INTENSE INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS
- 26 HEAVY MANUFACTURING, ASSEMBLING, OR INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING ACTIVITIES,
- 27 THAT MAY CREATE SIGNIFICANT NOISE, DUST, VIBRATION, GLARE, ODORS, AND
- 28 OTHER ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.
- 29 (4) "CURRENT OR PROJECTED FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT" MEANS:

- 1 (I) A SCHOOL'S FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT AT THE TIME OF THE 2 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION; OR
- 3 (II) A SCHOOL'S PROJECTED FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT FOR A
- 4 SCHOOL YEAR NOT LATER THAN THE 7TH FULL SCHOOL YEAR AFTER THE TIME OF
- 5 THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION.
- 6 (5) "DENY A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION" 7 INCLUDES TO:
- 8 (I) DENY A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION AT
- 9 ANY STATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, INCLUDING ANY REQUIRED LAND USE
- 10 APPROVALS OR ENTITLEMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING
- 11 **PERMIT; AND**
- 12 (II) REQUIRE THAT A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WAIT A
- 13 PERIOD OF 1 OR MORE YEARS TO RECEIVE A BUILDING PERMIT.
- 14 (6) "GEOGRAPHICALLY ADJACENT SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL THAT:
- 15 (I) IS OF THE SAME GRADE CONFIGURATION OR SHARES GRADE
- 16 BAND OVERLAP; AND
- 17 (II) HAS AN ATTENDANCE AREA GEOGRAPHICALLY
- 18 CONTIGUOUS TO THE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA IN WHICH THE HOUSING
- 19 DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED.
- 20 (7) "HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT" MEANS THE NEW
- 21 CONSTRUCTION OR SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION OF A RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE
- 22 PROJECT.
- 23 (8) "HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION" MEANS AN
- 24 APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT, A VARIANCE, A WAIVER, A CONDITIONAL USE
- 25 PERMIT, A SPECIAL PERMIT, A CERTIFICATION, AN AUTHORIZATION, A SITE PLAN
- 26 APPROVAL, A SUBDIVISION APPROVAL, OR ANY OTHER DETERMINATION BY A LOCAL
- 27 JURISDICTION RELATING TO A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.
- 28 (9) "OBJECTIVE WRITTEN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS" MEANS
- 29 OBJECTIVE, QUANTIFIABLE, WRITTEN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, CONDITIONS,
- 30 AND POLICIES THAT ARE:
- 31 (I) NOT SUBJECT TO PERSONAL OR SUBJECTIVE JUDGMENT BY
- 32 A PUBLIC OFFICIAL;

1	(11)	UNIFORMLY V	VERIFIABLE BY	REFERENCE	TO AN	EXTERNAL

- 2 AND UNIFORM BENCHMARK OR CRITERION AVAILABLE AND KNOWABLE BY THE
- 3 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICANT; AND
- 4 (III) APPLIED TO FACILITATE AND ACCOMMODATE
- 5 DEVELOPMENT AT THE DENSITY PERMITTED ON THE SITE.
- 6 (10) "SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA" MEANS THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA
- 7 THAT CONTAINS THE RESIDENCES OF THE STUDENT POPULATION TO BE SERVED, AS
- 8 DESIGNATED BY A COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH §
- 9 4–109(C) OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.
- 10 (11) "SPECIFIC ADVERSE IMPACT" MEANS A SIGNIFICANT,
- 11 QUANTIFIABLE, DIRECT, AND UNAVOIDABLE IMPACT, BASED ON OBJECTIVE,
- 12 IDENTIFIED WRITTEN PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY STANDARDS, POLICIES, OR
- 13 CONDITIONS.
- 14 (12) "STATE RATED CAPACITY" MEANS THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS
- 15 THAT AN INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL HAS THE PHYSICAL CAPACITY TO ENROLL, AS
- 16 CALCULATED UNDER A FORMULA ADOPTED BY THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON
- 17 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION.
- 18 (13) "SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION" MEANS A RESIDENTIAL REAL
- 19 ESTATE PROJECT THAT MEETS CRITERIA AS ANNUALLY ESTABLISHED AND
- 20 IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- 21 IN THE MULTIFAMILY RENTAL FINANCING PROGRAM GUIDE.
- 22 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A LOCAL JURISDICTION THAT HAS A
- 23 LOCAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE GAP GREATER THAN ZERO UNITS.
- 24 (C) A LOCAL JURISDICTION HAS AN AFFIRMATIVE OBLIGATION TO
- 25 EXPEDITIOUSLY APPROVE A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION.
- 26 (D) A LOCAL JURISDICTION MAY NOT DENY A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
- 27 PROJECT WITHOUT A JUSTIFICATION THAT:
- 28 (1) CLEARLY OUTWEIGHS THE NEED FOR HOUSING; AND
- 29 (2) IS SUPPORTED BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE.

- 1 (E) A LOCAL JURISDICTION SHALL CITE AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING 2 AS A JUSTIFICATION TO DENY A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION
- 3 THAT CLEARLY OUTWEIGHS THE NEED FOR HOUSING:
- 4 (1) (I) THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AS PROPOSED
- 5 WOULD HAVE A SPECIFIC ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY TO
- 6 THE RESIDENTS THAT WOULD LIVE IN THE PROJECT; AND
- 7 (II) THERE IS NO FEASIBLE METHOD TO SATISFACTORILY
- 8 MITIGATE OR AVOID THE SPECIFIC ADVERSE IMPACT WITHOUT RENDERING THE
- 9 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FINANCIALLY INFEASIBLE;
- 10 (2) (I) THE DENIAL OF THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
- 11 APPLICATION OR IMPOSITION OF CONDITIONS IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO COMPLY
- 12 WITH SPECIFIC STATE OR FEDERAL LAW; AND
- 13 (II) THERE IS NO FEASIBLE METHOD TO COMPLY WITHOUT
- 14 RENDERING THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FINANCIALLY INFEASIBLE;
- 15 (3) (I) THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED IN AN
- 16 AREA WITH INADEQUATE WATER OR WASTEWATER FACILITIES TO SERVE THE
- 17 PROJECT; AND
- 18 (II) THERE IS NO FEASIBLE METHOD TO SERVICE THE HOUSING
- 19 DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WITH WATER OR WASTEWATER FACILITIES;
- 20 (4) THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED AT THE TIME
- 21 OF THE APPLICATION:
- 22 (I) IN AN AREA ZONED FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIAL USE;
- 23 (II) ON CONSERVATION PROPERTY, AS DEFINED IN § 8–209.1 OF
- 24 THE TAX PROPERTY ARTICLE; OR
- 25 (III) ON AGRICULTURAL LAND, AS DEFINED IN § 9–206 OF THE
- 26 TAX PROPERTY ARTICLE;
- 27 (5) THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED, AT THE TIME
- 28 OF APPLICATION, IN A SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA:
- 29 (I) THAT HAS UNIFORMLY VERIFIABLE CURRENT OR
- 30 PROJECTED FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT FOR THE SCHOOL THAT EXCEEDS 100% OF
- 31 THE SCHOOL'S CURRENT OR ESTIMATED STATE RATED CAPACITY;

- 1 (II) FOR WHICH THE SUM OF THE UNIFORMLY VERIFIABLE
- 2 CURRENT OR PROJECTED FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND ITS
- 3 GEOGRAPHICALLY ADJACENT SCHOOLS EXCEEDS 100% OF THE SUM OF THE
- 4 CURRENT OR ESTIMATED STATE RATED CAPACITY FOR THOSE SCHOOLS; AND
- 5 (III) THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE LOCAL
- 6 JURISDICTION, USING UNIFORMLY VERIFIABLE OBJECTIVE CRITERIA, TO HAVE
- 7 INADEQUATE SCHOOL CAPACITY; OR
- 8 (6) (I) THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT DOES NOT COMPLY
- 9 WITH OBJECTIVE WRITTEN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AT THE TIME OF
- 10 APPLICATION SUBMISSION; AND
- 11 (II) THERE IS NO FEASIBLE METHOD TO COMPLY WITHOUT
- 12 RENDERING THE DEVELOPMENT FINANCIALLY INFEASIBLE.
- 13 (F) IF A LOCAL JURISDICTION DENIES A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
- 14 APPLICATION, THE LOCAL JURISDICTION MUST PROVIDE IN WRITING THE REASON
- 15 FOR DENIAL, SPECIFYING HOW THE DENIAL COMPLIES WITH SUBSECTIONS (C)
- 16 THROUGH (E) OF THIS SECTION.
- 17 (G) (1) THE PROPONENT OF A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MAY
- 18 BRING AN ACTION IN THE APPROPRIATE CIRCUIT COURT TO ENFORCE THIS
- 19 SECTION.
- 20 (2) (I) IF A COURT FINDS THAT A LOCAL JURISDICTION DENIED A
- 21 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPLICATION IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION,
- 22 THE COURT SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER OR A JUDGMENT COMPELLING THE
- 23 JURISDICTION TO COMPLY WITHIN 90 DAYS WITH THIS SECTION.
- 24 (II) AN ORDER OR A JUDGMENT COMPELLING COMPLIANCE
- 25 UNDER THIS SECTION MAY INCLUDE AN ORDER OR A JUDGMENT:
- 26 1. REQUIRING THE LOCAL JURISDICTION TO TAKE
- 27 ACTION ON THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT; OR
- 28 2. DIRECTING THE LOCAL JURISDICTION TO APPROVE
- 29 THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.
- 30 (3) IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT ITS ORDER OR JUDGMENT HAS
- 31 NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT WITHIN 90 DAYS, THE COURT MAY ISSUE FURTHER ORDERS
- 32 TO ENSURE THAT THE PURPOSES AND POLICIES OF THIS SECTION ARE FULFILLED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 2 January 1, 2026.