



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Acting Secretary
Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary

February 15, 2023

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 517 – First Reader

SHORT TITLE: Port of Deposit State Historical Park – Included Areas

DEPARTMENT’S POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION WITH AMENDMENTS

EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT’S POSITION

DNR must establish the Port of Deposit State Historical Park that the Bainbridge Development Corporation transfers to DNR consisting of portions of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site.

The Department is offering an amendment to the bill that modifies a Port of Deposit State Historical Park creation requirement to an authorization, consistent with another provision in the bill. The amendment would delete the specificity of portions of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site and keep the acreage amount to no more than 150 acres. The amendment also extends the timeframe for any transfer until June of 2025 to provide more time for research and addressing of any problematic site conditions and property restrictions, and associated follow up.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Great Maryland Outdoors Act of 2022 (Senate Bill 541/Chapter 39), a report with recommendations was submitted to the General Assembly in January 2023 on the creation of Port of Deposit State Historical Park by using a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site that the Bainbridge Development Corporation currently manages.

BILL EXPLANATION

This emergency bill deletes (1) the minimal number of acres that must become Port of Deposit State Historical Park, and (2) mandatory transfer of the historic Tome School to the park. The bill authorizes, rather than requires, the transfer of specified property at the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site to the park by June 2024, rather than June 2023. The bill still requires the establishment of a Port of Deposit State Historical Park.

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BY:

(To be offered in the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 517

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, in line 1, strike “(i) The Department shall” and substitute, “**IF THE BAINBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TRANSFERS PROPERTY TO THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL: (I)**”; in line 4, strike “slavery.” and substitute “**SLAVERY; AND**”; in line 5, after “(ii)” insert “**HOLD THE**”; in the same line, strike “shall be held by the State”; strike beginning with the second comma in line 9 down through “area” in line 13; and strike beginning with the comma in line 18 down through “area” in line 21.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 16, strike “2024” and substitute “**2025**”.