COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL 20-2

BY: Commissioners Church, Mitrecic, Nordstrom and Purnell
INTRODUCED: March 17, 2020

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT Concerning

Zoning - Special Events in the RP Resource Protection District

For the purpose of amending the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article to allow the commercial hosting of non-agricultural functions and events in the RP Resource Protection District by special exception.

Section 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Subsection § ZS 1-215(c)(15) be renumbered as § ZS 1-215(c)(16) and a new § ZS 1-215(c)(15) be enacted to read as follows:

(15) On a farm as defined herein, the accessory use of a principal agricultural structure or use of land for the commercial hosting of non-agricultural functions and events, including, but not limited to, wedding receptions, family reunions, birthday and anniversary celebrations, children's parties, corporate and employee appreciation parties, and the like. All such uses must be clearly accessory and subordinate to the principal agricultural structure or use of the property. All building, fire, health, zoning, and environmental code requirements for such a use or facility shall apply to the same extent as if the structure or use of land was not located on a farm. Minimum lot requirements for the principal agricultural structure or use of land shall be: lot area, twenty-five acres; lot width, two hundred feet; front yard setback, one hundred feet; each side yard setback, one hundred feet; and rear yard setback, one hundred feet; and subject to the provisions of Section ZS 1-325 hereof. The site of the commercial event itself and all associated use areas shall be located not less than five hundred feet from any residential structure on an adjacent property or public road and no variance to this requirement is permitted notwithstanding the provisions of § ZS 1-116(c)(4). Any amplified music associated with such a use must end by 11:00 p.m.
Section 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, that this Bill shall take effect forty-five (45) days from the date of its passage.

PASSED this 19th day of May, 2020.

ATTEST:

Harold L. Higgins  
Chief Administrative Officer

FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

Joseph M. Mitrecic, President