

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 2  
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, in line 9, after “unpaid;” insert “altering the distribution of certain fees from the Bay Restoration Fund;”.

On page 3, after line 26, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Environment

Section 9-1605.2(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)”;

and strike line 31 in its entirety and substitute:

“(2006 Replacement Volume)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, in line 17, strike “IN” and substitute “FOR”; in the same line, strike “\$2,000,000;” and substitute “\$4,000,000; AND”; in line 18, strike “IN” and substitute “FOR”; in the same line, strike “YEAR” and substitute “YEARS”; in the same line, strike “,\$3,000,000;” and substitute “THROUGH 2020, \$3,500,000 IN EACH FISCAL YEAR.”; strike in their entirety lines 19 through 21, inclusive; after line 26, insert:

“(ii) If the State has provided a combined and cumulative total of \$12,000,000 or less in fiscal year 2006 through fiscal year 2010 to the Corporation FOR RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE, the Governor may include each year in the budget bill an appropriation to the Corporation in an amount up to \$6,500,000 FOR RURAL

(Over)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE.”;

in line 27, strike “(II)” and substitute “(III)”; and in line 28, strike “SUBPARAGRAPH (I)” and substitute “SUBPARAGRAPHS (I) AND (II)”.

On page 7, in line 16, strike “applicable” and substitute “Applicable”; in line 17, strike “planned” and substitute “Planned”; in line 18, strike “subdivision” and substitute “Subdivision”; and in line 19, strike “other” and substitute “Other”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 10, in line 1, strike “at” and substitute “AT”; in line 29, after “TO” insert “:

1.”;

and in line 30, after “PROGRAMS” insert “; OR

2. THE NEXT GENERATION FARMLAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 11, in line 32, after “(c)” insert “(1)”; and strike beginning with “THE” in line 34 down through “LEGISLATIVE” in line 35.

On page 12, strike in their entirety lines 1 and 2 and substitute:

“(2) THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 24 SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:”;

in lines 3, 4, 5, and 6, strike “(1)”, “(2)”, “(3)”, and “(4)”, respectively, and substitute “(I)”, “(II)”, “(III)”, and “(IV)”, respectively; in line 3, strike “\$1,000,000” and substitute “\$9,200,000”; in line 4, strike “\$1,500,000” and substitute “\$9,500,000”; in line 5, strike “\$2,000,000” and substitute “\$9,500,000”; and in line 7, strike “\$2,500,000” and substitute “\$10,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 12, after line 32, insert:

“Article - Environment

9-1605.2.

(h) (1) With regard to the funds collected under subsection (b)(1)(i), from users of an onsite sewage disposal system or holding tank that receive a water bill, (ii), and (iii) of this section, beginning in fiscal year 2006, the Comptroller shall:

(i) Establish a separate account within the Bay Restoration Fund; and

(ii) Disburse the funds as provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) The Comptroller shall:

(i) Deposit [60%] 40% of the funds in the separate account to be used for:

1. With priority given to failing systems and holding tanks located in the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area, grants or loans for up to 100% of:

A. The costs attributable to upgrading an onsite sewage disposal system to the best available technology for the removal of nitrogen; or

B. The cost difference between a conventional onsite sewage disposal system and a system that utilizes the best available technology for the removal of nitrogen; and

2. The reasonable costs of the Department, not to exceed 8% of the funds deposited into the separate account, to:

A. Implement an education, outreach, and upgrade program to advise owners of onsite sewage disposal systems and holding tanks on the proper maintenance of the systems and tanks and the availability of grants and loans under item 1 of this subparagraph;

B. Review and approve the design and construction of onsite sewage disposal system or holding tank upgrades;

(Over)

C. Issue grants or loans as provided under subparagraph 1 of this subparagraph; and

D. Provide technical support for owners of upgraded onsite sewage disposal systems or holding tanks to operate and maintain the upgraded systems; and

(ii) Transfer [40%] 60% of the funds to the Maryland Agriculture Water Quality Cost Share Program in the Department of Agriculture in order to fund cover crop activities.

(3) The Comptroller, in consultation with the Administration, may establish any other accounts and subaccounts within the Bay Restoration Fund as necessary to:

(i) Effectuate the purposes of this subtitle;

(ii) Comply with the provisions of any bond resolution;

(iii) Meet the requirements of any federal or State law or of any grant or award to the Bay Restoration Fund; and

(iv) Meet any rules or program directives established by the Secretary or the Board.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 16, in line 32, strike “OR”; and in line 34, after “FOUNDATION” insert “; OR

(V) FOR THE NEXT GENERATION FARMLAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE FOUNDATION”.