

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
1999 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-19-1999

Chapter No. 26

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Estepp

Introduced by Council Member Estepp

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction June 15, 1999

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Agricultural Resources Preservation

3 For the purpose of revising the composition and duties of the Agricultural Resources Advisory
4 Committee and providing for the appointment of members to the Agricultural Preservation
5 Advisory Board.

6 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

7 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

8 Sections 2-427 and 2-428,

9 The Prince George's County Code
10 (1995 Edition, 1998 Supplement).

11 BY adding:

12 SUBTITLE 30. AGRICULTURE.

13 Section 30-107,

14 The Prince George's County Code
15 (1995 Edition, 1998 Supplement).

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
17 Maryland, that Sections 2-427 and 2-428 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same
18 are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

19 **SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.**

20 **DIVISION 30. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

21

1 **Sec. 2-427. Powers and duties of Committee.**

2 (a) The Committee shall have the power and duty to:

3 (1) Serve as the central point of information for the farming community regarding
4 governmental programs affecting agricultural operations;

5 (2) Advise County government regarding the effect on agricultural operations of
6 existing laws, policies, rules and regulations;

7 (3) Advise County government regarding the effect on agricultural operations of
8 potential laws, policies, rules and regulations; [and]

9 (4) Work to establish better communication and understanding between the
10 agricultural industry and the community at large[.]; and

11 (5) Advise the County government on the implementation of state and local
12 initiatives pertaining to development such as, but not limited to, rural legacy, nutrient
13 management, and smart growth programs.

14 **Sec. 2-428. Committee composition; term; officers.**

15 (a) The Committee shall be composed of eleven members nominated by the County
16 Executive and confirmed by the County Council. Six members shall be citizen members with
17 specific farming interests. The other five members shall represent the Farm Bureau, the
18 Maryland Cooperative Extension [Service], the County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory
19 Board, the Soil Conservation District; and the [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center] United
20 States Department of Agriculture. One ex-officio member may be appointed by the County
21 Executive and one ex-officio member by the County Council. Members shall be selected so as
22 to represent diverse geographic locations and a broad range of agricultural interests.

23 (b) The term of office for each member shall be three years; however, the terms of the
24 initial appointments shall be staggered with four members appointed to three-year terms, four
25 members appointed to two-year terms, and three members appointed to one-year terms.

26 (c) The committee members shall elect annually from their own membership a chairman
27 and such other officers as it deemed necessary. Staff support shall be provided by the Maryland-
28 National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

29 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that Section 30-107 of the Prince George's
30 County Code be and the same is hereby added:

31

SUBTITLE 30. AGRICULTURE.

DIVISION 2. AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION.

Sec. 30-107. Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board; composition; terms; officers.

(a) The County Executive shall appoint an Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Article, Title 2, Subtitle 5, Annotated Code of Maryland.

(b) There shall be five members, at least three of whom shall be owner-operators of commercial farms who earn fifty percent (50%) or more of their income from farming. The term of office for each member shall be five years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms. Appointments to fill a vacancy shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term. The terms of the initial appointments shall be staggered with one member appointed to a three-year term, two members appointed to four-year terms, and two members appointed to five-year terms.

(c) The Board members shall elect annually from their own membership a chairman and such other officers as it deems necessary.

(d) The duties of the Board shall be as provided in state law.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 13th day of July, 1999.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
M. H. Jim Estepp
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

In accordance with Section 411 of the Charter of Prince George's County:

The County Executive having failed to return this bill within ten (10) days after the date of its presentation to him with either his approval or veto, this bill became law on 8/4/99.

To become effective: 9/20/99