

## CHAPTER 437.

AN ACT to add a new sub-title and fourteen new sections to Article 2A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), title "Agriculture", said new sub-title to be known as "Soil Conservation", and said new sections to be known as Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, to follow immediately after Section 14 of said Article; to declare the necessity of creating governmental subdivisions of the State, to be known as "soil conservation districts", to engage in conserving soil resources and preventing and controlling soil erosion; to establish the State Soil Conservation Committee, and to define its powers and duties; to provide for the creation of soil conservation districts; to define the powers and duties of all soil conservation districts, and to provide for the exercise of such powers, including the power to acquire property by purchase, gift, and otherwise; and exempting such property from taxation; to empower such districts to adopt programs and regulations which shall be binding on all lands within the district, for the discontinuance of land-use practices contributing to soil wastage and soil erosion, and the adoption and carrying out of soil conserving land-use practices, and to provide for the enforcement of such programs and regulations by providing for the collection of costs for performing work required pursuant to such programs and regulations and to provide for the discontinuance of such soil conservation districts.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new sub-title and fourteen new sections be and the same are hereby added to Article 2A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), title "Agriculture", said new sub-title to be known as "Soil Conservation", and said new sections to be known as Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, to follow immediately after Section 15, and to read as follows:

15. **SHORT TITLE.** This Act shall be known as the Maryland Soil Conservation Districts Law.

16. **LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATIONS, AND DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is hereby declared, as a matter of legislative determination.

A. **THE CONDITION.** That the farm and grazing lands of the State of Maryland are among the basic assets of the State and that the preservation of these lands is necessary to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of its