

VETOES

(b) The General Assembly shall appropriate the other half of the funds to assist local governing bodies in acquisition and development of land for recreation and open space purposes.

(c) A committee, appointed by the Governor, shall prepare and adopt an apportionment formula relating to the percent of the total funds each subdivision will receive. The committee consists of two members of the Senate, three members of the House of Delegates, and four members of the public at large. The Director of the Office of Planning and the Secretary shall serve as advisers to the committee. The committee shall meet at least annually to review and update the apportionment formula. In determining the allocation formula, the committee shall take into account for each subdivision (1) current population, (2) projected population, and (3) other factors it deems desirable. In determining the apportionment for any year the committee may consider under-utilization of available funds and transfer or advance unused allocations that have not been utilized within a given period. The committee may reallocate funds, subject however to the policy that over the ten year period any subdivision shall be allocated in the aggregate the funds it would have been entitled to receive if able to utilize them. Before adopting an apportionment formula and before allocating funds for any year, the committee shall notify the governing bodies of every affected subdivision of its intended action and, after reasonable notice, afford an opportunity for hearings on the apportionment or allocation.

(d) Any funds previously or subsequently appropriated or reimbursed to the Department from the Land and Water Conservation Fund of the United States Department of Interior shall be used to supplement the acquisition and development program of the Department and of other eligible State agencies and local government bodies. Subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, the Department shall submit to the General Assembly an annual report of receipts and disbursements of these funds.

(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, USE ACQUISITION FUNDS TO MAKE MATCHING OR REFUNDABLE GRANTS TO LAND TRUSTS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF INTERESTS OR RIGHTS IN REAL PROPERTY FOR RECREATIONAL OR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF §§ 4-411 THROUGH 4-414 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE, SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE REGARDING OPEN SPACE AND WILDLAND AREAS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH A LAND TRUST FOR THE STATE TO ACQUIRE TITLE TO OR AN INTEREST OR RIGHT IN PROPERTY OWNED BY THE LAND TRUST OR PROPERTY ON WHICH THE LAND TRUST HOLDS AN OPTION OR A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE.

(3) AN AGREEMENT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS UNDER § 4-415 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.