

CHAPTER 727

(House Bill 407)

AN ACT to add new Sections 83A through ~~83V~~ 83W to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources," to follow immediately after Section 83 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Promotion of Use and Sale of Agricultural Products," authorizing the establishment of associations to promote agricultural commodities, and providing generally for the promotion and procedures of such associations.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Sections 83A through ~~83V~~ 83W be and that they are hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources," to follow immediately after Section 83 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Promotion of Use and Sale of Agricultural Products," and to read as follows:

Promotion of Use and Sale of Agricultural Products

83A.

It is declared to be in the interest of the public welfare that the Maryland farmers who are producers of livestock, poultry, field crops and other agricultural products, including ~~cattle, swine, sheep, broilers, turkeys, commercial eggs, potatoes, peaches, apples, berries, tobacco, vegetables and other fruits of all kinds,~~ NURSERY STOCK as well as bulbs and flowers and other agricultural products having a domestic or foreign market, shall be permitted and encouraged to act jointly and in cooperation with growers, handlers, dealers and processors of such products in promoting and stimulating, by advertising and other methods, the increased production, use and sale, domestic and foreign, of any and all of such agricultural commodities.

83B.

The passage by the Seventy-Ninth Congress of a law designated as Public Law 733, and more particularly Title II of that act, cited as "Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946," makes it all the more important for producers, handlers, processors and others of specific agricultural commodities to associate themselves in action programs, separately and with public and private agencies, to obtain the greatest and most immediate benefits under the provisions of such law, in respect to research, studies and problems of marketing, transportation and distribution.

83C.

No association, meeting or activity undertaken in pursuance of the provisions of this article and intended to benefit all of the producers, handlers and processors of a particular commodity shall be deemed or considered illegal or in restraint of trade.

83D.

It is hereby further declared to be in the public interest and highly advantageous to the agricultural economy of the State that