

(Senate Bill 1097)

AN ACT concerning

Recreational Access Easement

FOR the purpose of creating a Recreational Access Easement Program within the Department of Natural Resources; authorizing the Department to execute Recreational Access Easement Agreements; providing for the approval of the Board of Public Works; providing for the use of Program Open Space Funds; and limiting the liability of the landowner.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 5-1202(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Growing population and increasing leisure time is creating unprecedented demand for recreational areas.

Escalating land costs continue to diminish the ability of State and local governments to purchase recreational land.

Escalating cost of government require the retention of a taxable land base.

Large tracts of privately owned land, throughout the State, could support passive and low intensity recreational activities, as a subordinate use of the land, with financial advantages to both the landowner and the State and local governments; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 5-1202(c) be and it is hereby added to Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

5-1202.

(C) (1) A LANDOWNER MAY OFFER A RECREATIONAL ACCESS EASEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT MAY EXECUTE SUCH AN EASEMENT. THE RECREATIONAL ACCESS EASEMENTS SHALL PROVIDE FOR ACCESS TO ALL OR A PORTION OF THE LANDOWNER'S PROPERTY FOR