

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED. That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Approved May 27, 1980.

CHAPTER 739

(Senate Bill 890)

AN ACT concerning

Trespass - Agricultural Land

FOR the purpose of providing that entry upon agricultural cultivated land is a misdemeanor under certain conditions; and providing certain penalties.

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 579B
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

579B.

-A- (A) A PERSON, WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE OWNER OR AGENT OF THE OWNER, WHO ENTERS UPON ANOTHER'S LAND WHICH IS DEVOTED TO ACTIVE AGRICULTURAL USE THE CULTIVATED LAND OF ANOTHER IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION MAY BE FINED NOT MORE THAN \$500. "CULTIVATED LAND" MEANS LAND WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED OF ITS NATURAL VEGETATION AND IS PRESENTLY PLANTED WITH A CROP OR ORCHARD.

(B) IT IS INTENDED THAT THIS SECTION IS ONLY TO PROHIBIT ANY WANTON ENTRY UPON CULTIVATED LAND, AND THEREFORE THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED:

(I) TO PREVENT PERSONS WHO RESIDE ON CULTIVATED LAND FROM RECEIVING ANY PERSON WHO SEEKS TO PROVIDE A LAWFUL SERVICE; OR

(II) TO APPLY TO PERSONS ENTERING CULTIVATED LAND UNDER COLOR OF LAW OR COLOR OF TITLE.