preservation programs; and providing certain criteria, in addition to those currently being used, to be used in the system.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Agriculture Section 2-508(c)(2) and 2-510(e) Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1980 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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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 - Agriculture

2-508.

- (c) If the foundation receives acceptances of offers to buy in insufficient numbers to expend the total amount to be allotted for allotted purchases, the foundation, to the extent feasible, shall tender additional offers to buy in sufficient numbers to expend the total amount to be allotted. Any such additional offers to buy shall be tendered:
- (2) To applicants on a statewide basis [in decreasing order with respect to the proportion obtained by dividing the fair market value less the agricultural value less the asking price by the fair market value less the agricultural value] AS PROVIDED BY THE PRIORITY RANKING SYSTEM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2-510(E) OF THIS SUBTITLE; and

2-510.

- [(e) In determining which applications to be approved for the purchase of the easements offered therein, the foundation shall:
- (1) Approve only those applications in which the subject land meets the criteria and standards established under §§ 2-509 and 2-513 of this subtitle; and
- (2) Approve applications for the sale of easements on land in any one county under allotted purchases in descending order with respect to the proportion obtained by dividing the fair market value less the agricultural value less the asking price by the fair market value less the agricultural value.]
- (E) (1) IN DETERMINING WHICH APPLICATIONS IT SHALL APPROVE FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE EASEMENTS OFFERED FOR SALE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE FOUNDATION: