

FOR the purpose of altering the number of votes required to pass a proposed agricultural commodity assessment; deleting repetitive provisions of law; and clarifying language.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Agriculture
Section 10-108(a) and 10-109
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

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

Article - Agriculture

10-108.

(a) [If at least two thirds] (1) A PROPOSED ASSESSMENT ON AN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PASSES IF A MAJORITY of those persons qualifying as voters and voting in the area in which the referendum is conducted[,] vote in favor of the levying and collection of the proposed assessment on the agricultural commodity[, then the assessment shall be announced by].

(2) IF A PROPOSED ASSESSMENT PASSES, the agency conducting the referendum SHALL ANNOUNCE THE ASSESSMENT.

10-109.

(a) If [the first] AN assessment [or any subsequent referendum for an assessment receives at least two thirds of those persons qualifying as voters and voting] HAS PASSED and the assessments [are] HAVE BEEN levied annually for the period set forth in the call for the referendum, then the agency [conducting] THAT CONDUCTED the referendum may call and conduct another referendum during [the fifth year of the first period or] the last year of [any subsequent] THE ASSESSMENT period, on the question of an annual assessment for the next [ensuing five] 5 years.

(b) If [the] A PROPOSED assessment does not [receive at least two thirds of those persons qualifying as voters and voting] PASS, then the [certified] agency [conducting] THAT CONDUCTED the referendum may call another referendum the next succeeding year, for the purposes set forth in this subtitle, on the question of an annual assessment for [five] 5 years.