

FOR the purpose of authorizing a fire company, if there is no other water system available to extinguish a fire or mitigate an emergency, to enter private property to obtain water from a private water source to extinguish the fire or mitigate the emergency incident; and generally relating to limited access to private water sources by fire companies in response to emergencies.

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety

Section 7-403

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

7-403.

IF NO PUBLIC WATER SOURCE IS AVAILABLE TO A FIRE COMPANY TO SUPPLY WATER TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE OR MITIGATE AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT, A FIRE COMPANY MAY ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY TO OBTAIN WATER FROM A PRIVATE WATER SOURCE, SUCH AS A PRIVATELY OWNED POND, LAKE, RIVER, STREAM, CANAL, CISTERN, OR SWIMMING POOL, TO EXTINGUISH THE FIRE OR OTHERWISE MITIGATE THE EMERGENCY INCIDENT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2006.

May 26, 2006

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 1106 – *Maryland Building Performance Standards – Exemption in Certain Counties for Agricultural Buildings Used for Agritourism*.

This bill exempts Calvert, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Prince George's, St. Mary's, Somerset, and Talbot counties from the Maryland Building Performance Standards for the construction, alteration, or modification of agricultural buildings for which agritourism is an intended subordinate use; and provides that an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered as a change of occupancy that requires a building permit under specified circumstances.

Senate Bill 485, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me,