

**CHAPTER 135**

**(Senate Bill 485)**

AN ACT concerning

**Maryland Building Performance Standards – Exemption in Certain Counties  
for Agricultural Buildings Used for ~~Tourism~~ Agritourism**

FOR the purpose of exempting, in certain counties, from the Maryland Building Performance Standards the construction, alteration, or modification of agricultural buildings ~~used for tourism~~ for which agritourism is an intended subordinate use; providing that an existing agricultural building used for ~~tourism~~ agritourism is not considered as a change of occupancy that requires a building permit under certain circumstances; requiring an agricultural building used for ~~tourism~~ agritourism to be structurally sound and in good repair; exempting certain agricultural buildings from certain requirements of the Standards and other building codes; requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to adopt certain regulations; encouraging the University of Maryland to develop a certain program; providing for the applicability of this Act; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the exemption of agricultural buildings used for ~~tourism~~ agritourism from building codes.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 12–501, 12–503(a)(1) and (c), and 12–505(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety

Section 12–508

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**

12–501.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Building” has the meaning stated in the International Building Code.

(c) “Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.