

CHAPTER 324

(House Bill 576)

AN ACT concerning

Shore Erosion Control - Nonstructural Measures

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to utilize certain appropriated funds for certain grants to landowners for nonstructural shore erosion control; establishing a certain percentage of State assistance for these grants; authorizing the Department to impose certain conditions on these grants; providing that appropriations and expenditures of funds for these purposes are not subject to certain existing provisions of law; and generally relating to the establishment of a grant assistance program for nonstructural shore erosion control.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 8-1004.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1983 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

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

Article - Natural Resources

8-1004.1.

(A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO THE EXTENT THAT A PROJECT CONSISTS OF NONSTRUCTURAL SHORE EROSION CONTROL MEASURES, THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE THE OWNER OF THE BENEFITED PROPERTY TO INITIALLY INCUR SOME OR ALL OF THE PROJECT COSTS FOR NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES, AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE OWNER.

(B) TO BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ANY REIMBURSEMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE OWNER OF THE BENEFITED PROPERTY SHALL HAVE ENTERED INTO A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE INCURRING ANY COSTS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTIMATE THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF PROJECT COSTS FOR NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES AND SHALL ESTABLISH IN THE AGREEMENT AS THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE PROJECT 50 PERCENT OF THAT ESTIMATE. THE DEPARTMENT MAY INCLUDE IN THE PROJECT AGREEMENT CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE OWNER MAY BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT, INCLUDING CONDITIONING THE REIMBURSEMENT UPON THE SUCCESSFUL ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY VEGETATIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PROJECT.