

(e) (1) All revenues accruing to the Wildlife Management and Protection Fund from sales of the migratory wild waterfowl stamps shall be expended solely for the following purposes:

(i) [50%] AT LEAST 10% BUT NOT MORE THAN 50% for propagation, purchase, AND distribution of hand reared ducks, ~~and operation of hatchery facilities;~~ and

(ii) [50% for waterfowl] WATERFOWL projects included in an approved State program to create, develop, ENHANCE, maintain, AND manage, ~~preserve, and enhance waterfowl~~ NESTING COVER, WINTER FOODS, AND OTHER habitat COMPONENTS on public lands TO SATISFY THE HABITAT REQUIREMENTS OF A BROAD RANGE OF WINTERING WATERFOWL AND NATIVE WATERFOWL SPECIES.

(2) Under the program established by this subsection, a duck may not be released under the age of 6 weeks.

(3) To encourage waterfowl habitat conservation on private lands, the Department shall implement a 10 year licensing agreement for approved projects on privately owned lands detailing the landowner's responsibilities. Expenditures by private landowners on private land for these waterfowl projects approved by the Department and covered by the licensing agreement shall be considered a contribution to the State.

(4) The Governor shall appoint an advisory committee of 13 members composed of 9 members who have a practical knowledge in raising wild ducks, and 4 members who have a practical knowledge of waterfowl habitat conservation.

(5) The committee shall advise the Department of:

(i) The propagation or purchase and distribution of mallard or other ducks to be released;

(ii) Regulations adopted by the Department to effectuate this program; and

(iii) Waterfowl habitat conservation projects.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1993.

Approved April 26, 1993.

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**CHAPTER 145**

**(House Bill 263)**

AN ACT concerning

**Western Maryland Scenic Railroad Development Corporation Loan of 1991**

FOR the purpose of amending Chapter 523 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1991,