

(B) A DECISION TO FUND A PROJECT OR NOT TO FUND A PROJECT AS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT - CONTESTED CASES) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(C) THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PREVENT AN AGENCY FROM PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN AN AREA THAT IS NOT A PRIORITY FUNDING AREA.

7-314.

(O) IN THE CASE OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY LOCATED OUTSIDE A PRIORITY FUNDING AREA AS ESTABLISHED UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 7B OF THIS ARTICLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FIRST COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THAT SUBTITLE BEFORE MAKING A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE UNDER THIS SECTION.

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That no provision of this Act shall apply to any project or program for which approval has been granted or a commitment made before October 1, 1998, or for which a valid permit or State commitment for a grant, loan, loan guarantee, or insurance for a capital project, or for which final review under the National Environmental Policy Act or the Maryland Environmental Policy Act is completed by October 1, 1998, or for which final review through the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance is completed by January 1, 1999.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That no provision of this Act shall apply to any project or program for which:

- (a) Approval has been granted or a commitment made before October 1, 1998;
- (b) A valid permit has been issued;
- (c) A commitment for a grant, loan, loan guarantee, or insurance for a capital project has been granted;
- (d) Final review under the National Environmental Policy Act or the Maryland Environmental Policy Act is completed by October 1, 1998; or
- (e) Final review through the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance is completed by January 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be construed to create an entitlement to, or otherwise require, funding of a growth-related project proposed in a priority funding area.

SECTION 3. 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved May 22, 1997.