

providing that the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation shall notify all contract purchasers whose applications had been rejected during that fiscal year and the reasons for the rejection; prohibiting a certain contract purchaser whose application has been rejected from reapplying to sell an easement on the same land on the same terms until a certain time; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to contract purchasers and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Agriculture

Section 2-509(b)(1) and 2-510(a) and (l)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1985 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

Article - Agriculture

2-509.

(b) Regulations and procedures adopted by the Foundation for the establishment and monitoring of agricultural districts shall provide that:

(1) (I) One or more owners of land actively devoted to agricultural use may file a petition with the county governing body requesting the establishment of an agricultural district composed of the land owned by the petitioners. The petition shall include maps and descriptions of the current use of land in the proposed district.

(II) ~~A CONTRACT PURCHASER WITH THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE LANDOWNER~~ MAY ALSO FILE A PETITION, ON BEHALF OF A CONTRACT PURCHASER OF LAND, WITH THE COUNTY GOVERNING BODY REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT.

2-510.

(a) (1) An owner of agricultural land located in an agricultural district established under this subtitle may offer by written application to sell an easement to the Foundation on the entire contiguous acreage of such agricultural land.

(2) ~~A CONTRACT PURCHASER OF AGRICULTURAL LAND LOCATED IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE~~ MAY OFFER BY WRITTEN APPLICATION, AND WITH THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE LANDOWNER, TO SELL AN EASEMENT TO THE FOUNDATION ON THE ENTIRE CONTIGUOUS ACREAGE OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAND.

(l) (1) On or before June 30, the Foundation shall notify all landowners AND CONTRACT PURCHASERS whose applications had been rejected during that fiscal year. The Foundation shall specify the reasons for that rejection.