

particular attention to the problems of metropolitan, suburban, and other areas in which economic and population factors are rapidly changing.

Article - Agriculture

2-503.

(a) (1) The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation shall be governed and administered by a board of trustees composed of the State Treasurer, who shall serve as an ex officio member, the Comptroller, who shall serve as an ex officio member, and the Secretary who shall serve as an ex officio member, and nine members from the State at-large to be appointed by the Governor, at least five of whom shall be farmer representatives from different areas of the State. The State Treasurer may appoint, as the Treasurer's designee, a deputy treasurer to serve on the board of trustees. One of the at-large members who is not a farmer representative shall be a representative of the [Office] DEPARTMENT of Planning. All of the farmer representatives shall be actively engaged in or retired from active farming. Three of the five farmer representatives shall be appointed as follows:

(i) One from a list of three nominees submitted by the Maryland Agricultural Commission;

(ii) One from a list of three nominees submitted by the Maryland Farm Bureau; and

(iii) One from a list of three nominees submitted by the Maryland State Grange.

2-508.1.

(a) If a county is certified by the [Office] DEPARTMENT of Planning under § 5-408 of the State Finance and Procurement Article as having established an effective county agricultural land preservation program, and if there are moneys remaining in the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Fund at the end of the fiscal year, the county may apply to the Foundation for an amount equal to the difference between:

(1) The aggregate amount allotted on behalf of the county under general allotted purchases of easements as provided in § 2-508(b) of this subtitle for the fiscal year in which easement purchases are made; and

(2) The amount committed by the Foundation on behalf of the county under general allotted purchases of easements as provided in § 2-508(b) of this subtitle for the fiscal year in which easement purchases are made.

2-512.

(e) (2) A county shall use that county's unencumbered and uncommitted matching funds and any additional funds under § 2-508.1 of this subtitle available to a county certified by the [Office] DEPARTMENT of Planning and the Foundation under § 5-408 of the State Finance and Procurement Article to purchase development rights and guarantee loans that are collateralized by development rights for