

and clarifying its duties; authorizing the Council's Chairman to establish certain working committees; requiring the Council's Executive Director to serve at the pleasure of the Executive Board; placing the Council, for administrative and budgetary reasons, under the Maryland Department of Agriculture and requiring the Department to provide certain funding, staff, and resources for the Council; requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to include the Council's budget request that is provided to the Department of Budget and Management with the budget request of the Maryland Department of Agriculture; providing for the location of the Council's principal office; transferring from the Board of Public Works to the Council the administration of the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund; transferring from the Department of Business and Economic Development to the Council the administration of awarding certain grants; expanding the membership of the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Board and requiring it to make certain binding recommendations to the Council; authorizing certain agencies to assist the Council with administering certain grants; altering certain reporting requirements for certain grant recipients and the Council; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; repealing the termination provision for the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund; providing for the transition under this Act; providing for the application of this Act; making the provisions of this Act severable; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Forum for Rural Maryland and the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund Act of 2000.

BY adding to

Article 41 – Governor – Executive and Administrative Departments
 Section 15–101
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 41 – Governor – Executive and Administrative Departments
 Section 15–101 through 15–110, inclusive, to be under the amended title “Title
 15. Rural Maryland Council”
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement
 Section 2–206 and 11–203(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement