

necessary to demonstrate the precise location of the area, including a map of the area showing planning and zoning characteristics, and existing and planned water and sewer services as appropriate.

(d) The Department of Planning, as appropriate, shall provide to each State agency that funds growth-related projects copies of maps illustrating:

(1) priority funding areas certified by the local government OR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS; and

(2) any comments by the Department of Planning on the areas certified.

(e) Prior to funding a growth-related project, the State funding agency shall obtain from the affected local government OR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS a written statement that the proposed growth-related project is located within a certified priority funding area.

~~(F) A STATE FUNDING AGENCY MAY GIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION TO FUNDING A PROJECT IN A PRIORITY FUNDING AREA DESIGNATED BY TWO OR MORE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS UNDER § 5-7B-03(A)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before June 1, 2004, the ~~State Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Commission~~ Department of Planning shall develop and adopt regulations governing the designation of a priority funding area by the governing bodies of two or more counties as provided under this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

Approved May 22, 2003.

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## CHAPTER 416

### (House Bill 287)

AN ACT concerning

#### Public General Laws - Evidence of the Law

FOR the purpose of establishing a rule of interpretation that provides that certain references in the codified laws of the State to the "Code", "Annotated Code", and similar terms shall mean any code adopted as evidence of the public general laws of the State under a certain provision of law; adopting the 2002 Edition of the Annotated Code of Maryland as published by the editorial staff of West, Eagan, Minnesota (West Code), and all replacement volumes and supplements to the West Code; providing that the West Code and all replacement volumes and supplements to the West Code are evidence of the Public General Laws of Maryland and shall be considered as evidence of the law in all courts of the State and by all public offices and officers of the State and its political subdivisions;