

FOR the purpose of altering the requirements relating to the purchase of easements by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation; removing the requirement for the establishment of agricultural districts on a certain date; eliminating districts from the Foundation by a certain date subject to certain exceptions; prohibiting the Foundation from accepting a district petition after a certain date; correcting certain cross-references; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to agricultural land preservation easements.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Agriculture
Section 2-509 and 2-510(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1999 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article - Agriculture

2-509.

(a) (1) **THE FOUNDATION SHALL FOLLOW THE PROVISIONS UNDER THIS SECTION FOR THE EASEMENT APPLICATION PROCESS FOR:**

(I) **PROPERTIES WITHOUT ESTABLISHED DISTRICTS; AND**

(II) **PROPERTIES ENTERING INTO A DISTRICT.**

(2) The Foundation shall adopt regulations and procedures for:

[(1)] (I) Establishment and monitoring of agricultural districts **AND EASEMENTS;**

[(2)] (II) Evaluation of land to be included within agricultural districts **OR LAND TO BE SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT;** and

[(3)] (III) Purchase of easements, including the purchase of easements under an installment purchase agreement.

(b) Regulations and procedures adopted by the Foundation for the establishment and monitoring of agricultural districts **AND FOR THE PURCHASE OF EASEMENTS** shall provide that: