

(B) IF THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF MONEYS AVAILABLE IN THE FUND, THE PROGRAM SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO THE ANIMAL WASTE TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR:

- (1) IMPROVING THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT;
- (2) PRESERVING THE VIABILITY OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY; AND
- (3) HAVING A POSITIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPACT IN THE STATE.

6-806.

THE PROGRAM MAY IMPOSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FROM THE FUND.

6-807.

(A) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND AND THE STATE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

(B) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE PAID INTO THE FUND.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Agriculture

8-704.2.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "COMMERCIAL POULTRY PRODUCER" MEANS ANY ENTITY THAT CONTRACTS WITH A FARMER TO RAISE POULTRY FOR THE PRODUCER ON PROPERTY OWNED OR LEASED BY THE FARMER

(3) "PILOT PROJECT" MEANS THE POULTRY LITTER TRANSPORTATION PILOT PROJECT.

(B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT:

(1) FOR A 4-YEAR PERIOD THE STATE AND THE COMMERCIAL POULTRY PRODUCERS SHALL FACILITATE THE PROMPT TRANSPORTATION OF POULTRY LITTER FROM FARMS IN ALL AREAS OF THE STATE THAT EXPERIENCE PHOSPHORUS OVERENRICHMENT;

(2) THE PILOT PROJECT SHALL ENCOURAGE VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION TO ACHIEVE THE REMOVAL OF POULTRY LITTER PRODUCED BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE POULTRY IN THE FOUR LOWER EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES IN MARYLAND; AND