

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

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By: **Howard County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Howard County – Property Tax Credit – “Water-Only” Property in**
3 **Metropolitan District**

4 **Ho. Co. 09-08**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County to grant, by
6 law, a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on property
7 located in a certain portion of the Howard County Metropolitan District;
8 requiring the governing body of Howard County in establishing the authorized
9 tax credit to develop certain criteria and to designate an agency to administer
10 the tax credit; authorizing the governing body of Howard County to specify the
11 amount and duration of the credit and certain other requirements and
12 procedures relating to the credit; providing for the application of this Act; and
13 generally relating to authorization for a property tax credit in Howard County
14 for property located in a certain portion of the Howard County Metropolitan
15 District.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Tax – Property
18 Section 9-315(a) and (b)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2007 Replacement Volume)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

23 **Article – Tax – Property**

24 9–315.

25 (a) The governing body of Howard County may grant, by law, a property tax
26 credit under this section against the county property tax imposed on:

27 (1) property that:

28 (i) is owned by any community association;

29 (ii) is used for community, civic, educational, library, or park
30 purposes; and

31 (iii) is not a swimming pool, tennis court, or similar recreational
32 facility;

33 (2) real property that is subject to the county’s agricultural land
34 preservation program;

35 (3) subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, real property that
36 is new construction or an improvement to real property owned or occupied by a
37 commercial or industrial business that:

38 (i) is currently or will be doing business in Howard County;

39 (ii) will employ at least 12 additional full–time local employees
40 by the second year in which the credit is allowed, not including any employee filling a
41 job created when a job function is shifted from an existing location in the State to the
42 location of the new construction or improvement; and

43 (iii) makes a substantial investment in Howard County, which
44 may be:

45 1. the acquisition of a building, land, or equipment that
46 totals at least \$2,000,000; or

47 2. the creation of 10 positions with salaries greater than
48 the current average annual wage in Howard County;

49 (4) subject to subsection (b) of this section, real property that is used
50 as a therapeutic riding facility by a nonprofit organization that:

51 (i) is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal
52 Revenue Code;

53 (ii) provides services to disabled individuals; and

54 (iii) has at least 85% of its clients who are disabled individuals;
55 [and]

56 (5) subject to subsection (b) of this section, owner-occupied residential
57 real property that is jointly owned by an individual and the Howard County Housing
58 Commission; **AND**

59 **(6) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, PROPERTY IN**
60 **THE HOWARD COUNTY METROPOLITAN DISTRICT THAT IS LOCATED IN THE**
61 **“WATER-ONLY” PORTION OF THE PLANNED SERVICE AREA SET FORTH IN THE**
62 **HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL PLAN.**

63 (b) In establishing a tax credit under subsection (a)(3) through [(5)](6) of
64 this section, the governing body of Howard County:

65 (1) shall develop criteria necessary to implement the credit;

66 (2) shall designate an agency to administer the credit; and

67 (3) may specify:

68 (i) the amount and duration of the credit;

69 (ii) the qualifications and application procedures for the credit;
70 and

71 (iii) any other requirement or procedure for the granting or
72 administration of the credit that the governing body considers appropriate.

73 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
74 June 1, 2008, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30,
75 2008.