COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 10-23

Introduced by Council President Boniface at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 10-16 Date June 15, 2010

AN ACT to delete in its entirety Article IVA, Environmental Land Preservation Commission, of Part 2, Nonbinding Advisory Boards, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies; and to add Subsection E(6) to Section 60-11, Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board, of Article II, Agricultural Land Preservation and Purchase of Development Rights Program, of Chapter 60, Agriculture, all of the Harford County Code, as amended; to provide that the powers previously vested with the Environmental Land Preservation Commission be transferred to the County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board.

By the Council, June 15, 2010

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: July 20, 2010

at: 7:00 PM

By Order: Barbara J. O'Connor, Council Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on July 20, 2010, and concluded on July 20, 2010.

Barbara J. O'Connor, Council Administrator

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County, Maryland that Article IVA, Environmental Land Preservation Commission, of Part 2, Nonbinding Advisory Boards, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies, of the Harford County Code, as amended, be, and it is hereby, deleted in its entirety; and that Subsection E(6) be, and it is hereby, added to Section 60-11, Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board, of Article II, Agricultural Land Preservation and Purchase of Development Rights Program, of Chapter 60, Agriculture, of the Harford County Code, as amended, all to read as follows:

Chapter 9. Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies

Part 2. Nonbinding Advisory Boards

[Article IVA. Environmental Land Preservation Commission

§ 9-20.1. Creation; membership; qualifications; terms; duties.

A. There is hereby created the Environmental Land Preservation Commission, consisting of 5 members appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

B. Commission membership shall be representative of the County's population with respect to race, gender and geography.

C. Each member shall be a registered voter in Harford County.

D. Terms.

(1) The term of a member is 5 years.

(2) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members on February 1, 1991.

(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member appointed after a term has begun serves only for the remainder of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

E. The Commission shall:

(1) Work with the Maryland Environmental Trust to promote the Trust in the County and to solicit donations to the Trust of conservation easements on land that meets the Trust's criteria; and

(2) Review and make recommendations on the program developed by the Department of Planning and Zoning under Bill No. 90-74.[5]]

Chapter 60. Agriculture

Article II. Agricultural Land Preservation and Purchase of Development Rights Program

§ 60-11. Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board.

E. The Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board shall have the following responsibilities to the County Agricultural Land Preservation and Purchase of Development Rights Program:

(1) To advise the County with respect to the establishment of agricultural preservation districts and the purchases of easements by the County.

(2) To assist the County in reviewing the status of agricultural preservation districts and easements.

(3) To advise the County concerning priorities for agricultural preservation and to assist the County in developing criteria for evaluating agricultural land applying to the Program.

(4) To promote the preservation of agricultural land within the County by offering information and assistance to farmers with respect to the establishment of agricultural preservation districts and the purchase of easements.

(5) To advise the County in review and approval of various requests as allowed by the conservation easements and districts in such matters as owner/child lots, allowed uses, etc.

(6) TO WORK WITH THE MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST TO PROMOTE THE TRUST IN THE COUNTY AND TO SOLICIT DONATIONS TO THE TRUST OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ON LAND THAT MEETS THE TRUST'S CRITERIA.

Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted that this Act shall take effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

EFFECTIVE: September 27, 2010

The Council Administrator does hereby certify that fifteen (15) copies of this Bill are immediately available for distribution to the public and the press.

Barbara J. O'Connor

Council Administrator

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 10-23

Brief Title Environmental Land Preservation Commission

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

Barbara J. O'Connor
Council Administrator

Date July 20, 2010

ENROLLED

Billy Boniface
Council President

Date July 20, 2010

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 10-17

Failed of Passage: _____

By Order

Barbara J. O'Connor
Council Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 21st day of July, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

Barbara J. O'Connor
Council Administrator

BY THE EXECUTIVE

David R. Craig
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date July 29, 2010

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill No. 10-23 having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on July 29, 2010.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 27, 2010

Barbara J. O'Connor
Barbara J. O'Connor
Council Administrator