

HOUSE BILL 598

Q2

5lr2795
CF SB 131

By: **Delegates D. Jones, Bagnall, Lehman, Pruski, Schmidt, and Simmons**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Property Tax Credit – Supermarkets**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Anne Arundel County or a municipal
4 corporation in Anne Arundel County to grant, by law, a property tax credit against
5 the personal property tax imposed on personal property of a supermarket that
6 completes certain construction and is located in a certain food desert retail incentive
7 area; requiring the governing body of Anne Arundel County or a municipal
8 corporation in Anne Arundel County to designate what constitutes a food desert
9 retail incentive area for purposes of the tax credit; and generally relating to a
10 personal property tax credit for supermarkets in Anne Arundel County.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Tax – Property
13 Section 9–303(b)(8)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Tax – Property**

19 9–303.

20 (b) (8) (i) 1. IN THIS PARAGRAPH THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE
21 THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

22 2. “ELIGIBLE CONSTRUCTION” MEANS CONSTRUCTION
23 OF A NEW SUPERMARKET OR ANY SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION OF AN EXISTING
24 SUPERMARKET.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 3. “SUPERMARKET” MEANS A GROCERY STORE THAT
2 HAS:

3 A. ALL MAJOR FOOD DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING
4 PRODUCE, MEAT, SEAFOOD, DAIRY, AND CANNED AND PACKAGED GOODS;

5 B. MORE THAN 50% OF TOTAL SALES DERIVED FROM
6 FOOD SALES; AND

7 C. MORE THAN 50% OF TOTAL FLOOR SPACE DEDICATED
8 TO FOOD SALES.

9 (II) THE GOVERNING BODY OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OR OF
10 A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MAY GRANT, BY LAW, A
11 PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH AGAINST THE COUNTY OR
12 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON PERSONAL
13 PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED BY A SUPERMARKET THAT:

14 1. COMPLETES ELIGIBLE CONSTRUCTION; AND

15 2. IS LOCATED IN A FOOD DESERT RETAIL INCENTIVE
16 AREA.

17 (III) THE GOVERNING BODY OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OR OF
18 A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY SHALL, BY LAW,
19 DESIGNATE WHAT CONSTITUTES A FOOD DESERT RETAIL INCENTIVE AREA FOR
20 PURPOSES OF THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

21 (IV) A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT GRANTED UNDER THIS
22 PARAGRAPH FOR A TAXABLE YEAR MAY NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY
23 TAX IMPOSED ON THE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF A SUPERMARKET IN THAT YEAR.

24 (V) THE GOVERNING BODY OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OR OF
25 A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MAY ESTABLISH, BY LAW:

26 1. LIMITS ON THE CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY
27 TAX CREDITS GRANTED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH;

28 2. ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS ON THE AMOUNT OF THE
29 CREDIT;

30 3. ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
31 SUPERMARKETS TO QUALIFY FOR THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH;

1 4. ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR WHAT CONSTITUTES
2 ELIGIBLE CONSTRUCTION THAT MAY QUALIFY A SUPERMARKET FOR THE TAX
3 CREDIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH; AND

4 5. ANY OTHER PROVISIONS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT
5 THIS PARAGRAPH.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
7 1, 2025, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2025.