

HOUSE BILL 586

L1, E4

2lr2178
CF SB 489

By: **Delegates Arentz, Ghrist, and Jacobs**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Queen Anne's County – Public Safety – Buildings Used for Agritourism**

3 FOR the purpose of adding Queen Anne's County to the list of counties that exempt
4 agricultural buildings used for agritourism from certain building performance
5 standards; exempting a building used for agritourism in Queen Anne's County from
6 a certain permit requirement under certain circumstances; and generally relating to
7 buildings used for agritourism in Queen Anne's County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Public Safety
10 Section 12–508
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Public Safety**

16 12–508.

17 (a) (1) In this section, “agricultural building” means a structure designed and
18 constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, livestock, or other horticultural
19 products.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



(2) “Agricultural building” does not include a place of human residence.

(b) This section applies only to:

(1) Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Calvert County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Charles County, Dorchester County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Howard County, Kent County, Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, **QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY**, St. Mary’s County, Somerset County, and Talbot County; or

(2) a county where the local legislative body has approved the application of this section to the county.

(c) The Standards do not apply to the construction, alteration, or modification of an agricultural building for which agritourism is an intended subordinate use.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (e) and (f) of this section, an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered a change of occupancy that requires a building permit if the subordinate use of agritourism:

(1) is in accordance with limitations set forth in regulations adopted by the Department;

(2) occupies only levels of the building on which a ground level exit is located; and

(3) does not require more than 50 people to occupy an individual building at any one time.

(e) In Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Calvert County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Garrett County, Howard County, Kent County, Prince George’s County, **QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY**, and St. Mary’s County, an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered a change of occupancy that requires a building permit if:

(1) the subordinate use of agritourism does not require more than 200 people to occupy an individual building at any one time; and

(2) the total width of means of egress meets or exceeds the International Building Code standard that applies to egress components other than stairways in a building without a sprinkler system.

(f) (1) In Montgomery County, an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered a change of occupancy that requires a building permit as provided in this subsection.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, if the subordinate use of agritourism does not require more than 50 people to occupy an individual building at any one time, then that use must be:

(i) in accordance with limitations established by the Department;
and

(ii) limited to levels of the building on which a ground level exit is located.

(3) If the subordinate use of agritourism requires more than 50 people but fewer than 100 people to occupy an individual building at any one time, then that use must be:

(i) in accordance with the requirements in paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

(ii) the total width and number of means of egress must meet or exceed the International Building Code standard that applies to egress components other than stairways in a building without a sprinkler system.

(g) An agricultural building used for agritourism:

(1) shall be structurally sound and in good repair; but

(2) need not comply with:

(i) requirements for bathrooms, sprinkler systems, and elevators set forth in the Standards; or

(ii) any other requirements of the Standards or other building codes as set forth in regulations adopted by the Department.

(h) The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ June 1, 2022.