

## Md. Agriculture Code Ann. § 2-504.1

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Current with all legislation from the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly; including legislation ratified by the voters at the November 2022 election.

**Michie's™ Annotated Code of Maryland Agriculture (Titles 1 – 16) Title 2. Department of Agriculture. (Subts. 1 – 21) Subtitle 5. Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation. (§§ 2-501 – 2-519)**

### § 2-504.1. Agricultural preservation advisory boards.

**(a)** In each county containing productive agricultural land, the county governing body shall appoint an agricultural preservation advisory board.

**(b)**

**(1)** Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, the agricultural preservation advisory board shall consist of five members, at least three of whom shall be owner-operators of commercial farms who earn 50 percent or more of their income from farming.

**(2)** In Worcester County, the agricultural preservation advisory board shall consist of seven members, at least four of whom shall be owner-operators of commercial farms who earn 50 percent or more of their income from farming.

**(3)** In St. Mary's County, the agricultural preservation advisory board shall consist of five members, at least three of whom shall be actively pursuing the production of agricultural products for profit.

**(c)**

**(1)** Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each member of an agricultural preservation advisory board shall be appointed for a term of office of five years.

**(2)** In Charles County and in Worcester County, a member shall serve a term of office of 4 years.

**(3)** No member shall serve for more than two consecutive full terms.

**(4)** Appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**(d)** Duties of each agricultural preservation advisory board shall be:

- (1)** To advise the county governing body with respect to the approval of purchases of easements by the Foundation within the county;
- (2)** To assist the county governing body in reviewing the status of land under easement;
- (3)** To advise the Foundation concerning county priorities for agricultural preservation;
- (4)** To approve or disapprove an application by the county for certification or recertification under § 5-408 of the State Finance and Procurement Article;
- (5)** To promote preservation of agriculture within the county by offering information and assistance to farmers with respect to the purchase of easements;
- (6)** To meet at least annually with forest conservation district boards in order to work cooperatively to encourage the promotion and retention of farmland and woodland in their respective jurisdictions; and
- (7)** To perform any other duties as assigned by the county governing body.

## History

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1977, ch. 883; 1988, ch. 328; 1989, ch. 5, § 1; 1990, ch. 65; 1994, ch. 3, § 1; 2003, ch. 182; 2009, ch. 175; 2012, ch. 371; 2019, chs. 129, 130.

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