

# HOUSE BILL 680

Q2

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By: **Delegates Brooks, Cardin, Ebersole, Feldmark, Forbes, Guyton, Hill, Jackson, Szeliga, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County – Property Tax Credit – Supermarkets**

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

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Tax – Property

12 Section 9–305(h)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Tax – Property**

18 9–305.

19 **(H) (1) (I) IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE**  
20 **MEANINGS INDICATED.**

21 **(II) “ELIGIBLE CONSTRUCTION” MEANS CONSTRUCTION OF A**  
22 **NEW SUPERMARKET OR ANY SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION OF AN EXISTING**  
23 **SUPERMARKET.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (III) "SUPERMARKET" MEANS A GROCERY STORE THAT HAS:

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

4 2. MORE THAN 50% OF TOTAL SALES DERIVED FROM  
5 FOOD SALES; AND

6 3. MORE THAN 50% OF TOTAL FLOOR SPACE DEDICATED  
7 TO FOOD SALES.

8 (2) THE GOVERNING BODY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY MAY GRANT, BY  
9 LAW, A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AGAINST THE COUNTY  
10 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON PERSONAL PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED BY A  
11 SUPERMARKET THAT:

12 (I) COMPLETES ELIGIBLE CONSTRUCTION; AND

13 (II) IS LOCATED IN A FOOD DESERT RETAIL INCENTIVE AREA.

14 (3) THE GOVERNING BODY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY SHALL, BY LAW,  
15 DESIGNATE WHAT CONSTITUTES A FOOD DESERT RETAIL INCENTIVE AREA FOR  
16 PURPOSES OF THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

17 (4) A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT GRANTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION  
18 FOR A TAXABLE YEAR MAY NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED  
19 ON THE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF A SUPERMARKET IN THAT YEAR.

20 (5) THE GOVERNING BODY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY MAY ESTABLISH,  
21 BY LAW:

22 (I) LIMITS ON THE CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX  
23 CREDITS GRANTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION;

24 (II) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS ON THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT;

25 (III) ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR  
26 SUPERMARKETS TO QUALIFY FOR THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION;

27 (IV) ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR WHAT CONSTITUTES ELIGIBLE  
28 CONSTRUCTION THAT MAY QUALIFY A SUPERMARKET FOR THE TAX CREDIT UNDER  
29 THIS SUBSECTION; AND

1                                   **(V) ANY OTHER PROVISIONS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS**  
2 **SUBSECTION.**

3                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
4 1, 2022, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2022.