

SENATE BILL 124

E4

(PRE-FILED)

3lr0763
CF HB 32

By: **Senator Hester**

Requested: November 14, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Food System Resiliency Council**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council is in
4 the Office of Resilience in the Maryland Department of Emergency Management;
5 altering the process for electing a cochair of the Council; and generally relating to
6 the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 14–1101 and 14–1102

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 14–1101.

16 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (b) “Council” means the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council.

18 (c) [“Director” means the Director of the Maryland Emergency Management
19 Agency.

20 (d)] “Food council organization” means a local food council organization that is
21 established in the State.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 14–1102.

2 (a) There is a Maryland Food System Resiliency Council **IN THE OFFICE OF**
3 **RESILIENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

4 (b) The Council consists of the following members:

5 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
6 the Senate;

7 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
8 House;

9 (3) the [Director] **SECRETARY**, or the [Director's] **SECRETARY'S**
10 designee;

11 (4) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;

12 (5) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

13 (6) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

14 (7) the Executive Director of the Maryland Farm Bureau, or the Executive
15 Director's designee;

16 (8) the Executive Director of the Maryland Agricultural and
17 Resource–Based Industry Development Corporation, or the Executive Director's designee;

18 (9) the Dean of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and
19 Natural Resources, or the Dean's designee; and

20 (10) the following members appointed by the [Director] **SECRETARY**:

21 (i) five representatives of five different food council organizations
22 who are recommended by members of food council organizations;

23 (ii) one representative of the University of Maryland Extension;

24 (iii) one representative of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore
25 Small Farm Program;

26 (iv) one representative of the Harry R. Hughes Center for
27 Agro–Ecology;

28 (v) one representative of a public school system in the State who has
29 experience in food security and local food procurement;

- 1 (vi) one representative of a statewide food security advocacy
2 organization;
- 3 (vii) one farmer in the State;
- 4 (viii) one owner of a food business in the State;
- 5 (ix) one expert in food system policy;
- 6 (x) one expert on racial equity in the food system;
- 7 (xi) one expert on food system impacts on climate and the
8 environment;
- 9 (xii) one expert on food nutrition and public health; and
- 10 (xiii) any other individual that the [Director] **SECRETARY** deems
11 appropriate.

12 (c) The [Director] **SECRETARY** shall:

13 (1) ensure that all five geographic areas of the State are represented by the
14 appointed members of the Council; and

15 (2) appoint a successor in the event of a vacancy on the Council.

16 (d) (1) (i) The term of a member of the Council appointed by the [Director]
17 **SECRETARY** is 3 years.

18 (ii) An appointed member may not serve for more than 2 consecutive
19 three year terms.

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

22 (3) A member who is appointed after a term has begun shall serve for the
23 rest of the term or until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

24 (e) A member of the Council:

25 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Council; but

26 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
27 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State Budget.

28 (f) A majority of the members then serving on the Council is a quorum.

1 (g) (1) (i) The [Director] **SECRETARY**, or the [Director's] **SECRETARY'S**
2 designee, and one member [representing a food council organization] who is elected in
3 accordance with subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph shall cochair the Council.

4 (ii) At the first meeting of each year, the Council shall elect a cochair
5 from among the [five] Council members [representing food council organizations] for a
6 term of 1 year.

7 (2) The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee, the Secretary
8 of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee, and the Dean of the University of Maryland
9 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or the Dean's designee shall co-vice chair
10 the Council.

11 (h) (1) The Council may establish subcommittees to provide technical
12 assistance to the Council.

13 (2) The Council may establish subcommittee topics and membership as the
14 Council deems appropriate.

15 (i) The [Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the University of
16 Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources] **DEPARTMENT** shall provide staff
17 for the Council[, as deemed necessary by the cochairs].

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2023.