

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY 2015-07

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2015

**Title of Resolution:** Emergency Legislation - Enterprise Zone - Port Deposit

**Synopsis:** An Emergency Resolution to expand the existing Cecil County Enterprise Zone to include the Town of Port Deposit, including Bainbridge and Tome's Marina.

**Introduced by:** Council President at the request of the County Executive

**Introduced and ordered posted on:** April 7, 2015

**Public hearing scheduled on:** April 21, 2015 at: 7:00 p.m.

**Scheduled for consideration on:** April 21, 2015

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice of time, place of public hearing and title of this Resolution having been posted on April 8, 2015 at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland and having been published on April 8, 2015 and April 15, 2015. A public hearing was held on April 21, 2015 and concluded on April 21, 2015.

By: James Massey  
Council Manager

1           **WHEREAS**, Maryland’s Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program is a joint effort between the  
2 State and local governments to provide tax incentives to businesses and property-owners located  
3 in economically distressed communities;

4           **WHEREAS**, the Cecil County Enterprise Zone was approved by the State of Maryland on June 15,  
5 2013, thus providing an important economic development tool for the County and the towns of Perryville,  
6 North East and Elkton;

7           **WHEREAS**, the Cecil County Office of Economic Development desires to have the current Zone  
8 expanded to allow existing businesses in Cecil County and prospective new businesses to utilize these  
9 incentives;

10           **WHEREAS**, the application will include the town of Port Deposit, including 1,248 acres of Bainbridge,  
11 and 3.498 acres of Tome’s Marina;

12           **WHEREAS**, the primary benefits to businesses that are located within an Enterprise Zone are  
13 eligibility for local property tax credits and State income tax credits;

14           **WHEREAS**, eligible businesses in an enterprise zone may claim a ten-year credit against local real  
15 property taxes on a portion of real property improvements. The credit is 80 percent of the assessment  
16 increase during the first five years. The credit then decreases 10 percent annually thereafter to 30 percent  
17 in the tenth year;

18           **WHEREAS**, eligible businesses in an enterprise zone may claim one-year or three-year credits for  
19 wages paid to new employees in new positions. The general credit is a one-time \$1,000 credit  
20 per new worker. For economically disadvantaged employees, the credit increases to a total of  
21 \$6,000 per worker distributed over three years. Businesses claim the enterprise zone income tax  
22 credits on the 500CR form when they submit their business or individual income tax returns to  
23 the Comptroller.

24           **WHEREAS**, the Enterprise Zone is an important incentive for the County to access to encourage  
25 existing businesses to expand and in attracting new businesses to locate within Cecil County.

26           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the County Council of Cecil County, Maryland is in  
27 support of this application to expand the Cecil County Enterprise Zone to include the Town of Port Deposit.

28           **AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency  
29 measure and necessary for a situation that was unanticipated, urgent, a pressing and compelling need

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30 requiring immediate action in order to submit the enterprise application to the Maryland Department of  
31 Business and Economic Development,

32 **AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its passage by  
33 the County Council of Cecil County, Maryland.

INTRODUCED: April 7, 2015

ADOPTED: April 21, 2015

ATTEST:

James Massey  
Council Manager

Robert Hodge  
President of the Council