

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY 2017-13

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2017

Title of Resolution: Creation and appointment - Poultry House CAFOs Committee

Synopsis: A Resolution to establish the Poultry House CAFOs Committee to develop recommendations for poultry house CAFOs in Cecil County.

Introduced by: Council Members

Introduced and ordered posted on: July 11, 2017

Scheduled for consideration on : July 18, 2017

By: _____
Council Manager

Notice and title of Resolution having been posted on _____ at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton and consideration by the Council having been scheduled on _____.

By: _____
Council Manager

Explanation: CAPITAL LETTERS INDICATE LANGUAGE ADDED TO EXISTING DOCUMENT
~~Strike through~~ indicates language deleted from existing document
Underlining indicates language added to document by amendment.
~~Double Strike through~~ indicates language stricken from document by amendment

1 **WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Section 203 of the County Charter provides that the County Council may
2 appoint special ad hoc committees solely for the purpose of inquiry and fact finding; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Section 412(c) of the County Charter provides that the membership of
4 boards and commissions that are established exclusively to advise the Council shall be appointed and
5 removed by the Council, at the Council's discretion; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Agriculture has dominated the Cecil County landscape and economy for centuries, and
7 county farmers produce their crops and livestock for local, regional, national and international
8 marketplaces; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Cecil County's mid-Atlantic location on the I-95 corridor is sought after by families and
10 businesses for homes and commercial development; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Cecil County must balance the interests of agriculture with that of development so that
12 the economy can prosper from its location and geographical beauty; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Cecil County has a "Right to Farm" ordinance that encourages that operation of
14 agriculture without interference from other land uses; and

15 **WHEREAS**, farmers and residents of the community have expressed support for environmental
16 regulations of Confined Animal Feeding Operations, CAFOs, and in regulation of poultry feeding
17 operations; and

18 **WHEREAS**, CAFOs are highly regulated and subject to oversight of the Maryland Department of
19 Agriculture and the Department of the Environment; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the County Executive has issued Executive Order 01-2017 in February 2017, which
21 orders the Cecil Soil Conservation District Agents to collaborate with the Director of Land Use and
22 Development Services in implementing best management practices; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the County Council of Cecil County has reviewed recommendations from agricultural
24 and environmental experts as to the potential hazards of operating CAFOs, which has resulted in several
25 eastern shore counties updating their CAFOs regulations to reflect the concerns of the community; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the County Council of Cecil County has reviewed many documents and testimonies
27 about the operation of poultry house CAFOs that present diverse facts and opinions about the safety and
28 potential hazards; and

Creation and Appointment – Poultry House CAFOs Committee

29 **WHEREAS**, the County Council wishes to be a catalyst in this effort to determine what, if any,
30 regulations of poultry house CAFOs should be implemented in Cecil County.

31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND,**
32 that a Poultry House CAFOs Committee shall be created as an ad hoc committee to advise the Council;
33 and

34 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Poultry House CAFOs Committee shall be charged with
35 developing recommendations as to any regulations that should be implemented regarding the operations
36 of poultry house CAFOs in Cecil County; and

37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the committee will be composed of the following members as
38 appointed by the County Council; two members from the Cecil County Farm Bureau, two members from
39 Calvert Neighborhood Alliance, one member from the Cecil County Health Department, one member from
40 the Cecil County Public Schools, and three members from the general community; and

41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Council Members will be ex-officio members of the Poultry
42 House CAFOs committee; and

43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Poultry House CAFOs Committee will develop
44 recommendations that will be presented to the County Council by October 1, 2017; and

45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Poultry House CAFOs Committee will be dissolved, without
46 further action of the County Council of Cecil County, on October 1, 2017.

INTRODUCED: July 11, 2017

ADOPTED: _____

President of the Council

ATTEST:

Council Manager