

# HOUSE BILL 631

M1, L2

4lr2241

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By: **Delegates Allen, Stewart, Addison, Baker, Bhandari, Ebersole, Forbes, Grossman, Guyton, Jackson, J. Long, Love, T. Morgan, Nawrocki, Ruth, Stein, White Holland, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Protection of Beaver Population and Habitat – County**  
3 **Authority**  
4 **(Beaver Believer Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county, notwithstanding a certain provision of law, to  
6 enact a local law to promote, protect, and support the population and habitat of  
7 beavers in the county; and generally relating to the protection of beaver population  
8 and habitat.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 10–104  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 **10–104.**

18 **NOTWITHSTANDING § 10–504 OF THIS TITLE, A COUNTY MAY ENACT A LOCAL**  
19 **LAW TO PROMOTE, PROTECT, AND SUPPORT THE POPULATION AND HABITAT OF**  
20 **BEAVERS IN THE COUNTY.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 2024.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

