

by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 30, 1965.

CHAPTER 192

(Senate Bill 348)

AN ACT to add new Section 110A to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Agriculture", to follow immediately after Section 110 thereof and to be under the new sub-heading "Cloud Seeding", to prohibit persons in the State from engaging in weather modification by means of cloud seeding or otherwise, to prohibit the use of ground generators for weather modification, both for a limited period of time and to provide for the automatic expiration of this Act.

WHEREAS, for a number of recent years farmers in parts of the State have suffered through drouth conditions, which have been most severe during the last three growing seasons; and

WHEREAS, drouth conditions have caused serious and irreparable financial losses to the farming community of the State; and

WHEREAS, it is the considered opinion of many persons that man-created modification of the weather is a contributing factor to recent drouth conditions; and

WHEREAS, the orchardist supports weather modification by means of cloud seeding (the dropping of silver iodide particles into a cloud) and the use of ground generators in order to prevent the fall of hail, while the farmer opposes change in natural weather conditions by the above means, and the conflict between the two interests cannot be reconciled; and

WHEREAS, there is a public need for dispassionate review of cloud seeding problems so that there will be no repetition of the unfortunate incidents of violence which have occurred recently; and

WHEREAS, since responsible people have taken opposite views on this question, some action must be taken to prove or disprove one or the other of the opposing sides of cloud seeding; and

WHEREAS, a number of studies of weather control are being undertaken by the United States Congress, by other public groups and by private groups, and it is desirable to prevent further conflict until solutions can be found; now therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 110A be and it is hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Agriculture", to follow immediately after Section 110 thereof, to be under the new sub-heading "Cloud Seeding", and to read as follows: