

MARYLAND THE BEAUTIFUL



Sponsors: Senator Sarah Elfreth & Delegate Dana Stein

Also known as the 30x30 Act, this bill would mandate a conservation goal of 30% of Maryland lands by 2030.



Maryland has conserved only 23% of its total land mass

Land conservation is a simple defense to challenges like climate change, sea-level rise, and unprecedented species loss. It offers carbon sequestration, reduced flooding, and the preservation of essential habitat.

The Maryland the Beautiful Act aligns with both President Biden's goal and a UN-led international Kumming-Montreal Agreement to conserve 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030. Also known as the 30x30 Act, this bill would mandate a conservation goal of 30% of Maryland lands by 2030.

To ensure successful implementation, this bill pairs land conservation with stewardship, and resource equity.

- Setting a New State Conservation Goal: 30% of Maryland lands protected by 2030 and 40% of Maryland's land by 2040
- Creating a \$10M Rapid Response Revolving Loan Fund to help small and medium sized land trusts preserve critical lands, quickly
- Allocating more than \$250K in grant funding towards land trusts and community nonprofits, for improving the stewardship and health of lands