

HB 1296 -- FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

SPONSOR: Andrews

This bill prohibits a nonresident alien who is a citizen of or an entity with majority ownership by citizens of a country that has a policy that prohibits foreign ownership of land by Americans from acquiring any agricultural land in the state. The prohibition does not apply to any person or entity owning agricultural land on August 28, 2021, or their direct descendants.

If the Attorney General determines agricultural land is held in violation of this prohibition, he or she must file a notice of pendency of action with the Recorder of Deeds or each county in which the land is located. If the court finds that the land in question has been acquired in violation of the provisions, it must enter an order declaring so and file a copy with the Recorder of Deeds, and the order the owner to divest his or her interest in the land. Any property not divested within the time set in the order, will be sold by the court at a public sale.