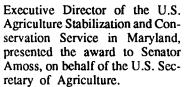
Maryland Senator Presented With USDA Commendation

BEL AIR, MD - Senator William H. Amoss, District 35 serving Harford and Cecil Counties, has received a commendation from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Richard E. Lyng, in recognition of his initiative in sponsoring Senate Bill 741, which encourages Maryland farmers to place highly erodible lands in pasture, forest or natural wildlife grounds.

"I commend your efforts to obtain passage of Senate Bill 741, Maryland Conservation Program," stated Secretary Lyng. "This important piece of legislation should significantly enhance the clean-up and preservation of the Chesapeake Bay. Your interest and support to Maryland agriculture and conservation are appreciated.'

James C. Richardson, State



Senate Bill 741, which became effective July 1, 1988, adds \$20 per acre to the already substantial financial incentives provided by the Federal Reserve Conservation Program, under the Federal Food Security Act of 1985. The new State Conservation Program, will "piggyback" on the federal program.

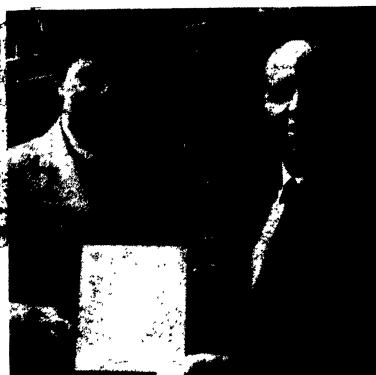
"The program gives extra encouragement to those farming highly erodible lands in critical areas, and around waterways and marshes leading to critical areas, to practice conservation methods. It is designed to help farmers estabits tributaries," states Senator Amoss.

"While establishing these conservation areas, farmers will not lose the use of the land for pasture or forestation," indicates Senator

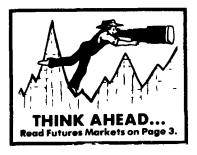
"In the past, Maryland's response to the Federal Conservation Program has been poor," indicates Senator Amoss. "Twenty-three percent of Maryland farmers are eligible to share in this program, yet fewer than one percent have done so." While ranking 14th in federal eligibility for the reserve program, Maryland places 42nd in participation.

"The new state legislative and increased financial incentive for participation should creat greater interest in conservation by Maryland farmers," comments Senator Amoss. "I am hopeful that those who are currently cropping highly erodible lands along streams and in critical areas will give renewed consideration to the conservation program."

The next sign-up period for the lish buffer areas along the Bay and Federal Reserve Consevation Program begins Monday, July 18th, and will run for three weeks. Applications and program information may be obtained by calling the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in the county of residence.



James C. Richardson, left, state executive director of the U.S. Agriculture Stabilization & Conservation Service in Maryland, presented a letter of commendation to Senator William H. Amos, District 35 serving Harford and Cecil counties.



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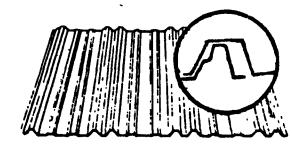
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