
By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: March 6, 2006

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Dorchester County - Water and Sewerage Systems - Benefit Assessments**
3 **and Connection Charges**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a sanitary commission in Dorchester County to set
5 reasonable benefit assessments on certain property to pay the cost of capital
6 improvements and repairs to the water or sewerage system; and generally
7 relating to the authority of a sanitary commission in Dorchester County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Environment
10 Section 9-656
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Environment**

16 9-656.

17 (a) (1) To pay the principal and interest on bonds issued under this subtitle,
18 a sanitary commission may set reasonable benefit assessments and reasonable
19 connection charges.

20 (2) In Allegany County, a sanitary commission may also set reasonable
21 benefit assessments to pay the cost of capital improvements to a water or sewerage
22 system.

23 (3) The Sanitary Commission of Worcester County may also set
24 reasonable benefit assessments and reasonable connection charges to pay other costs
25 on bonds issued under this subtitle.

26 (4) IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, A SANITARY COMMISSION MAY ALSO SET
27 REASONABLE BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS TO PAY THE COST OF CAPITAL
28 IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS TO A WATER OR SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

1 (b) (1) Except for Worcester County, a connection charge made under this
2 section shall be equal at least to the cost of making the connection between a water
3 system or sewerage system and the property served by that system.

4 (2) In Worcester County, a connection charge shall be equal at least to:

5 (i) The actual cost of making the connection between a water
6 system or sewerage system and the property served by the system; or

7 (ii) The average cost of making a connection based on:

8 1. The diameter and the length of the connector; or

9 2. The diameter of the connector and the width of the way in
10 which the water pipe or sewer pipe is laid.

11 (3) In the case of connectors constructed under § 9-661 of this subtitle
12 during construction of the water line or sewer line, the Sanitary Commission of
13 Worcester County shall determine a connection charge under paragraph (2)(ii) of this
14 subsection that is the same on each side of the way in which the line is laid.

15 (c) The Sanitary Commission may set benefit assessments on all property,
16 improved or unimproved, that abuts a way in which a water main or sewer has been
17 built.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2006.