

SENATE BILL 841

M3

9lr2492

By: **Senator Lenett**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Landfills – Methane Testing**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to conduct a certain
4 study of certain landfills for certain emissions; authorizing the Department to
5 determine the procedures and method of each study; requiring the Department
6 to report to certain committees of the General Assembly and a certain executive
7 agency; and generally relating to landfill methane emissions.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Environment
10 Section 9–215
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 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 9–215.

17 (a) When landfill operations end, the holder of a permit issued under this
18 subtitle for a landfill system shall close and cover all of the land for which the permit
19 was issued in a manner that prevents:

- 20 (1) Erosion;
- 21 (2) Health and safety hazards;
- 22 (3) Nuisances; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) Pollution.

2 (b) The Department shall adopt regulations that set standards for the closing
3 and covering of landfill systems.

4 (c) (1) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT A STUDY OF EACH**
5 **LANDFILL THAT HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS FOR:**

6 (i) **THE PRESENCE OF METHANE EMISSIONS FROM A**
7 **LANDFILL; AND**

8 (ii) **THE POTENTIAL TO USE ANY METHANE EMISSIONS FOR**
9 **ELECTRICITY GENERATION.**

10 (2) **THE DEPARTMENT MAY DETERMINE THE PROCEDURES AND**
11 **METHODS FOR A STUDY REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
12 **SUBSECTION.**

13 (3) **ON THE COMPLETION OF EACH STUDY CONDUCTED UNDER**
14 **THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT THE FINDINGS OF THE**
15 **STUDY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,**
16 **TO:**

17 (i) **THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND**
18 **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE;**

19 (ii) **THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS COMMITTEE;**
20 **AND**

21 (iii) **THE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY**
22 **ADMINISTRATION.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2009.