

HOUSE BILL 616

L5

11r0416

By: **Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's County Delegation**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2011
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Security Deposits on**
3 **Customer Service Accounts**

4 **MC/PG 107–11**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission to
6 require the payment of a security deposit on a customer service account for
7 water and sewer usage; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations
8 governing security deposits; defining a certain term; and generally relating to
9 security deposits on customer service accounts in the Washington Suburban
10 Sanitary Commission.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Public Utilities
13 Section 25–504.1
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2010 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article – Public Utilities**

19 **25–504.1.**

20 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “SECURITY DEPOSIT” MEANS A PAYMENT OF**
21 **MONEY MADE TO THE COMMISSION BY THE HOLDER OF A CUSTOMER SERVICE**
22 **ACCOUNT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE COMMISSION AGAINST UNPAID WATER**
23 **AND SEWER USAGE CHARGES.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS**
2 **SECTION, THE COMMISSION MAY REQUIRE A SECURITY DEPOSIT ON A**
3 **CUSTOMER SERVICE ACCOUNT FOR WATER AND SEWER USAGE.**

4 **(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS GOVERNING**
5 **SECURITY DEPOSITS ON CUSTOMER SERVICE ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING**
6 **REGULATIONS CONCERNING:**

7 **(1) THE IMPOSITION OF A SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT;**

8 **(2) THE MAINTENANCE OF A SECURITY DEPOSIT IN A FINANCIAL**
9 **INSTITUTION;**

10 **(3) THE RETURN OF A SECURITY DEPOSIT; AND**

11 **(4) THE WITHHOLDING OF A SECURITY DEPOSIT, OR A PORTION**
12 **OF A SECURITY DEPOSIT, FOR UNPAID WATER AND SEWER USAGE CHARGES.**

13 **(D) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT**
14 **AUTHORIZE A SECURITY DEPOSIT ON A CUSTOMER SERVICE ACCOUNT TO BE**
15 **HELD BY THE COMMISSION FOR MORE THAN 12 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS FROM**
16 **THE DATE THE SECURITY DEPOSIT WAS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2011.