

HB0441/753723/1

BY: Delegate George

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 441, AS AMENDED
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Strike in their entirety the Economic Matters Committee Amendments (HB0441/313396/1).

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1 of the bill, in line 2, strike “Maryland”; in the same line, strike “Act of 2012” and substitute “– Pilot Program”.

On pages 1 and 2 of the bill, strike beginning with “altering” in line 3 of page 1 down through “lines” in line 24 of page 2 and substitute “prohibiting the Public Service Commission from approving an application for the construction of a certain offshore wind project, except under certain circumstances; requiring the Commission to enter into negotiations with a certain electricity supplier for the development of a certain pilot project for offshore wind energy to study the economics of larger scale offshore wind projects, the mechanics of constructing and issues relating to the maintenance of offshore wind projects, and the ability of offshore wind projects to withstand certain weather conditions; requiring the Commission to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; defining a certain term; and generally relating to offshore wind projects”.

On pages 2 and 3 of the bill, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 25 on page 2 through line 1 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY adding to

Article - Public Utilities

Section 7-214

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)”.

(Over)

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 3 through 23 of the bill, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 5 on page 3 through line 21 on page 23, inclusive, and substitute:

“7-214.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT” MEANS A WIND TURBINE ELECTRICITY GENERATION FACILITY, INCLUDING THE ASSOCIATED TRANSMISSION-RELATED INTERCONNECTION FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT THAT IS LOCATED ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN IN AN AREA DESIGNATED FOR LEASING BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AFTER COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 388(A) OF THE ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005.

(B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT.

(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PILOT PROGRAM FOR OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY THAT CONSISTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT CONSISTING OF A SINGLE WIND TURBINE WITH A CAPACITY NOT EXCEEDING 5 MEGAWATTS OF ELECTRICITY TO STUDY:

(1) THE ECONOMICS OF LARGER SCALE OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS;

(2) THE MECHANICS OF CONSTRUCTING AND ISSUES RELATED TO THE MAINTENANCE OF OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS; AND

(3) THE ABILITY OF OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS TO WITHSTAND WEATHER CONDITIONS PRESENT ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN OFFSHORE FROM THE STATE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 31, 2017, the Public Service Commission shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the status of the pilot program for the construction of an offshore wind project under § 7-214 of the Public Utilities Article, as enacted Section 1 of this Act.”.

On page 22 of the bill, in line 22, strike “6.” and substitute “3.”.