

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1531

(St. Mary's County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission - Water and Sewer Service Charges
- Volunteer Fire Departments and Rescue Squads - Exemption**

This emergency bill exempts any property owned by a volunteer fire department and volunteer rescue squad and used for public purposes from the imposition of specified water or sewer service charges by the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission (MetCom).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Minimal reduction in MetCom revenues. No more than three volunteer fire departments and rescue squads will qualify for the water and sewer charge exemption. MetCom expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: MetCom was created by the General Assembly in 1957 to supply water and sewer service to residents in St. Mary's County. MetCom operates 27 water systems and 4 sewer treatment plants and provided water service to 41,000 people and sewer service to 36,000 people. MetCom operating income is projected to total \$13.6 million in fiscal 2014. **Exhibit 1** shows the MetCom current water and sewer service charges, effective July 1, 2013.

Exhibit 1
St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission Water and Sewer Service Charges
Effective July 1, 2013

Sewer Service Charges	Rate
Residential, nonmetered rate	\$34.56/month per EDU
Commercial, metered rate	\$29.48/month per EDU
Overage Rate	\$5.46 per \$1,000 gallons per quarter

Water Service Charges	Rate
Up to 18,000 gallons per quarter	\$18.42/month, up to 18,000 gallons
Overage Rate	\$3.07 per 1,000 gallons over 18,000 gallons
Nonmetered Rate	\$23.03/month per EDU

Source: St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 13, 2014
mam/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 19, 2014

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