

SENATE BILL 792

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By: **Senator Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Business Regulation – Lodging Establishments – Bedbug Remediation

FOR the purpose of requiring an innkeeper of a lodging establishment to consult and contract with a certain licensed pest management professional to engage in certain bedbug remediation measures for rooms in the lodging establishment under certain circumstances; establishing a certain daily penalty for a violation of this Act, not exceeding a certain aggregate amount; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the remediation of bedbugs in lodging establishments.

BY adding to

Article – Business Regulation

Section 15–208

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Regulation

15–208.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “LICENSED PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL” MEANS A PERSON WHO IS LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ENGAGE IN PEST CONTROL.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(3) “REMEDICATION” MEANS REASONABLE MEASURES, AS DETERMINED BY A LICENSED PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL, TO EFFECTIVELY IDENTIFY AND TREAT A BEDBUG INFESTATION IN A ROOM IN A LODGING ESTABLISHMENT.

(B) FOR EACH ROOM OF A LODGING ESTABLISHMENT IN WHICH BEDBUGS ARE PRESENT OR IN WHICH THERE IS EVIDENCE OF PAST OR PRESENT BEDBUG INFESTATION, THE INNKEEPER OF THE LODGING ESTABLISHMENT SHALL CONSULT AND CONTRACT WITH A LICENSED PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL TO ENGAGE IN REMEDIATION.

(C) (1) AN INNKEEPER WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$50 FOR EACH DAY AFTER BEDBUGS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED THAT THE INNKEEPER FAILS TO COMPLY WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE FINES IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR VIOLATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES MAY NOT EXCEED \$1,000.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.