

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1129

(Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery
County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Commissioners Appointed From
Montgomery County - Qualifications**
PG/MC 116-16

This bill repeals a requirement that the commissioners of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) from Montgomery County reside in the Washington Suburban Sanitary District.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill does not affect WSSC operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: WSSC has six commissioners: three from Montgomery County and three from Prince George's County. Each commissioner must be a resident of the sanitary district and must be a registered voter in the county the commissioner represents. The commissioners are appointed by the county executive subject to the confirmation of the county council. In Montgomery County, no more than two commissioners may be from the same political party.

Background: WSSC is among the largest water and wastewater utilities in the country, providing water and sewer services to 1.8 million residents in Montgomery and

Prince George's counties. It has over 460,000 customer accounts, serves an area of around 1,000 square miles, and currently employs more than 1,500 people. The commission operates three reservoirs, two water filtration plants, and six wastewater treatment plants. The six wastewater treatment facilities, as well as the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, handle over 200 million gallons of wastewater per day. The commission maintains nearly 5,600 miles of water main lines and nearly 5,500 miles of sewer main lines.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 15, 2016
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