L5 8lr0894

By: Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2018 Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

2	Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Water Leakage – Billing
3	PG/MC 107–18

FOR the purpose of requiring the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission to notify an account holder within a certain number of days after determining a certain increase in water usage during a certain period; requiring the Commission to waive billing and collection of a certain amount of water usage due to a certain leakage if the account holder repairs the leak within a certain number of days under certain conditions; and generally relating to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and water service in the sanitary district.

- 11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 12 Article Public Utilities
- 13 Section 25–504

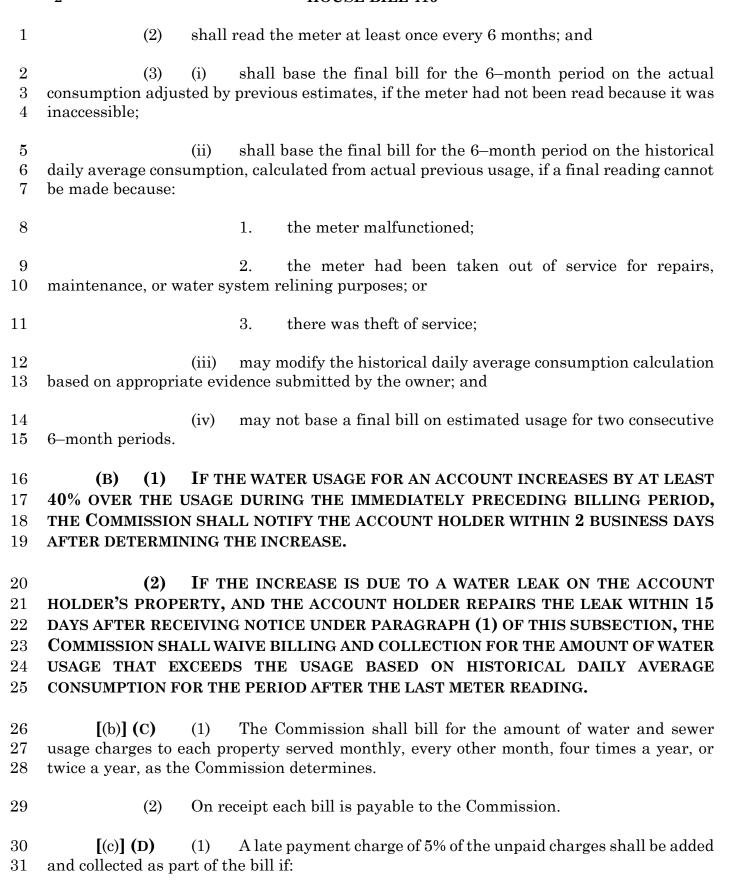
AN ACT concerning

- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 18 Article Public Utilities
- 19 25-504.

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- 20 (a) The Commission:
- 21 (1) may provide for the billing and collection of the water and sewer usage 22 charges on an estimated basis for periods of 6 months or less, based on the historical daily 23 average consumption calculated from actual previous usage;





32 (i) the Commission sends out a bill for water and sewer usage 33 charges in the regular course of business;

- 1 $\,$ (ii) for a service period of less than 3 months, the bill is not paid 20 $\,$ 2 days from the date of sending; or
- 3 (iii) for a service period of 3 months or more, the bill is not paid 30 days from the date of sending.
- 5 (2) The late payment charge is in addition to and not in substitution for or 6 derogation of any other right or remedy granted to the Commission by any other law.
- [(d)] (E) (1) If a bill is not paid within 30 days after the date of sending, after leaving written notice on the premises or mailing notice to the owner's last known address, the Commission shall turn off the water to the property.
- 10 (2) The water may not be turned on again until the bill, any late payment 11 penalty charges as authorized by law, and the cost incurred in shutting off and restoring 12 the water supply are paid.
- [(e)] **(F)** If a bill is not paid within 60 days after the date of sending, the bill shall be collected against the owner of the property served in the same manner as other debts are collected in Montgomery County and Prince George's County.
- 16 **[**(f)**]** (G) (1) This subsection applies only to property subject to a condominium regime established under Title 11 of the Real Property Article.
- 18 (2) Notwithstanding any other law, if the Commission directly bills the governing body of a condominium or a person designated by the governing body of a condominium for water or sewer usage charges for all or a portion of the units in a condominium property, and a charge is in default for at least 60 days, the Commission shall post notice conspicuously at or near the entry to the common area of the condominium.
- 23 (3) The Commission may enter onto the common area of a condominium 24 property at a reasonable time to post the notice required under this subsection.
- [(g)] (H) The provisions of subsections [(b), (d),] (C), (e), [and] (f), AND (G) of this section that relate solely to sewer usage charges may not be construed to invalidate an existing contract between the Commission and a municipality located in the sanitary district without the consent of the municipality.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 30 October 1, 2018.