HOUSE BILL 528

C5

8lr2621 CF SB 337

By: **Delegates Jameson and Mautz** Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2018 Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Public Utilities – Water or Sewage Disposal Systems – Rates

- FOR the purpose of allowing the Public Service Commission to authorize a certain rate
 consolidation of two or more water or sewage disposal systems under certain
 circumstances; defining the term "rate consolidation"; and generally relating to
 water or sewage disposal systems.
- 7 BY adding to
- 8 Article Public Utilities
- 9 Section 4–307
- 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 11 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

14

Article – Public Utilities

15 **4–307.**

16 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "RATE CONSOLIDATION" MEANS THE USE OF THE 17 SAME OR SIMILAR RATES OR TARIFF SCHEDULES OF RATES FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE 18 SAME CLASS FOR TWO OR MORE WATER OR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS EVEN IF THE 19 SYSTEMS ARE NOT PHYSICALLY INTERCONNECTED.

(B) AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS AND HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING, THE
 COMMISSION MAY AUTHORIZE A RATE CONSOLIDATION OF TWO OR MORE WATER OR
 SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS IF:

- 23
- (1) THE WATER OR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS HAVE COMMON



- 1 OWNERSHIP; AND
- 2 (2) THE RATE CONSOLIDATION IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 4 October 1, 2018.