

# HOUSE BILL 921

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EMERGENCY BILL

9lr2856

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By: **Delegates Jacobs, Anderson, Anderton, Arentz, Beitzel, Boteler, Cassilly, Corderman, Fraser-Hidalgo, Hornberger, Kipke, Moon, Otto, Stewart, and Szeliga**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Conowingo Dam – Water Quality Certification**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment, as part of its review and  
4 approval process for an application for a water quality certification for the  
5 Conowingo Dam relicensing process, to require the applicant to fulfill certain  
6 requirements and conditions related to the removal of trash and debris from the  
7 Conowingo Reservoir; defining a certain term; making this Act an emergency  
8 measure; and generally relating to the water quality certification for the Conowingo  
9 Dam relicensing process.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Environment

12 Section 9–354 to be under the new part “Part VII. Water Quality Certification”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Environment**

18 **9–352. RESERVED.**

19 **9–353. RESERVED.**

20 **PART VII. WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION.**

21 **9–354.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION” MEANS A WATER**  
2 **QUALITY CERTIFICATION REQUESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 401 OF THE FEDERAL**  
3 **CLEAN WATER ACT.**

4           **(B) AS PART OF ITS REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS FOR AN APPLICATION**  
5 **FOR A WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR THE CONOWINGO DAM RELICENSING**  
6 **PROCESS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE THE APPLICANT TO:**

7           **(1) REMOVE FROM THE CONOWINGO RESERVOIR FLOATING TRASH**  
8 **AND VISIBLE DEBRIS AT LEAST 40 TIMES BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND NOVEMBER 1**  
9 **OF EACH YEAR BY ANY METHOD APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT;**

10           **(2) USE, SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS, A SELF-PROPELLED**  
11 **SKIMMER BARGE DAILY TO REMOVE TRASH AND DEBRIS FROM THE CONOWINGO**  
12 **RESERVOIR;**

13           **(3) SPONSOR, PLAN, AND IMPLEMENT AT LEAST TWO ANNUAL**  
14 **COMMUNITY-BASED CLEANUPS OF THE CONOWINGO RESERVOIR EACH YEAR; AND**

15           **(4) CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON OBTAINING, LOCATING,**  
16 **INSTALLING, AND USING WATER WHEEL TRASH INTERCEPTORS FOR REMOVING**  
17 **TRASH AND DEBRIS FROM THE CONOWINGO RESERVOIR.**

18           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
19 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
20 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
21 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
22 enacted.