

HOUSE BILL 344

M3

5lr2062
CF SB 315

By: **Delegates Stein and Lehman**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Environmental Service – Membership of Board of Directors –**
3 **Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the composition of the Board of Directors of the Maryland
5 Environmental Service ~~by replacing the State Treasurer with the Secretary of~~
6 ~~Planning or the Secretary's designee~~; providing that certain provisions of law
7 relating to terms of members of the Board do not apply to the Secretary of Planning,
8 certain legislative members, and the Executive Director; and generally relating to
9 the membership of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Environmental Service.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Natural Resources
12 Section 3–103(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Natural Resources
17 Section 3–103(b)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **Article – Natural Resources**

2 3–103.

3 (a) (1) There is a body politic and corporate known as the “Maryland
4 Environmental Service”.5 (2) The Service is an instrumentality of the State and a public corporation
6 by that name, style, and title, and the exercise by the Service of the powers conferred by
7 this subtitle is the performance of an essential governmental function of the State.

8 (b) (1) There are four officers of the Service:

9 (i) An Executive Director;

10 (ii) A Deputy Director;

11 (iii) A Secretary; and

12 (iv) A Treasurer.

13 (2) (i) The four officers of the Service shall be appointed in accordance
14 with this paragraph.15 (ii) 1. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the
16 Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate solely with regard to the qualifications
17 for the duties of the office.18 2. The Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the Board
19 with the concurrence of the Governor and shall receive such compensation as may be
20 determined by the Board.21 (iii) 1. The Deputy Director shall be appointed by the Executive
22 Director with the approval of the Governor solely with regard to the qualifications for the
23 duties of the office.24 2. The Deputy Director serves at the pleasure of the
25 Executive Director and shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the
26 Board.27 (iv) 1. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be selected by the
28 Board from among the Board’s members.29 2. The Secretary and the Treasurer serve at the pleasure of
30 the Board and shall receive such compensation as may be reasonably determined by the
31 Board.

1 (3) The Board of Directors of the Service shall consist of the following
2 members:

3 (i) The Executive Director, who shall serve as a nonvoting member;

4 (ii) THE FOLLOWING TWO MEMBERS, WHO SHALL EACH SERVE
5 AS A NONVOTING MEMBER:

6 1. ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND,
7 APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; AND

8 2. ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
9 APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

10 (III) The [State Treasurer] **SECRETARY OF PLANNING**, or the
11 [State Treasurer's] **SECRETARY'S** designee;

12 ~~(iii)~~ **(IV)** Three members from the public sector in the State in
13 positions responsible for environmental, water, wastewater, or solid waste management;

14 ~~(iv)~~ **(V)** One member from the private sector in the State with
15 technical, financial, development, or legal experience related to environmental, water,
16 wastewater, or solid waste management;

17 ~~(v)~~ **(VI)** One member from the private sector in the State with
18 financial experience related to environmental, water, wastewater, or solid waste
19 management; and

20 ~~(vi)~~ **(VII)** One member from the private sector in the State with
21 experience or expertise in matters related to business ethics, preferably involving board of
22 director ethics and conflicts of interest.

23 (4) (i) Subject to subparagraphs (ii), (iii), and (iv) of this paragraph, the
24 public sector and private sector members of the Board, as set forth in paragraph ~~(3)(iii)~~
25 ~~through (vi)~~ **(3)(IV) THROUGH (VII)** of this subsection shall be appointed by the Governor
26 with the advice and consent of the Senate.

27 (ii) The Governor shall select at least one of the public sector
28 members of the Board from a list of recommendations jointly compiled by the Maryland
29 Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League.

30 (iii) The Governor may not appoint an employee of the Service to the
31 Board.

32 (iv) At least one of the public sector or private sector members shall
33 be a resident of a rural county in the State.

1 (5) (i) Five members constitute a quorum for the transaction of
2 business of the Board.

3 (ii) The affirmative vote of at least five members is necessary for any
4 action taken by the Board.

5 (6) Those members of the Board not already holding a public office shall
6 receive from the Service:

7 (i) Per diem compensation as established by the Board; and

8 (ii) Reimbursement for expenses under Standard State Travel
9 Regulations.

10 (7) The term of a member other than the [State Treasurer] **SECRETARY**
11 **OF PLANNING, A MEMBER APPOINTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3)(II) OF THIS**
12 **SUBSECTION, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** is 4 years.

13 (8) The terms of members other than the [State Treasurer] **SECRETARY**
14 **OF PLANNING, A MEMBER APPOINTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3)(II) OF THIS**
15 **SUBSECTION, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** are staggered as required by the terms
16 provided for those members of the Board on July 1, 2021.

17 (9) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
18 appointed and qualifies.

19 (10) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only the
20 remainder of that term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

21 (11) A member of the Board who is appointed under paragraph (3)(iii)
22 through (vi) of this subsection may serve only two consecutive full 4-year terms, plus any
23 partial term served before the initial 4-year term.

24 (12) Subject to paragraphs (13) and (14) of this subsection, the Board shall
25 select a Chair from among the Board's members.

26 (13) The Executive Director may not serve as the Secretary, Treasurer, or
27 Chair of the Board.

28 (14) The [State Treasurer] **SECRETARY OF PLANNING OR A MEMBER**
29 **APPOINTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION** may not serve as the
30 Secretary, Treasurer, or Chair of the Board.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
32 1, 2025.