

3-27-2025 HB 491 Commission Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: George Erichsen

Position: FAV



St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

23121 Camden Way, California, MD 20619

Serving our customers since 1964

www.metcom.org

Potable Water Distribution - Wastewater Collection / Treatment

Phone: 301-737-7400

FAX: 301-737-7459

HB 491 - St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service

SUPPORT

March 27, 2025

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **HB 491 – Letter of Support**
St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

The Metropolitan Commission Board unanimously supports the above referenced House Bill, scheduled for hearing on April 1, 2025. We presented the text amendments to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Southern Maryland Delegation at a joint public meeting on October 1, 2024, and all are in full support of same.

We greatly appreciate the introduction of this Bill, which is a follow-up to the on-going efforts of our local Boards to help modernize and update our local Code. We believe that this Bill will benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County, improve the readability of Chapter 113, and will provide the Metropolitan Commission with some additional flexibility and opportunity to better serve its customers.

In the interim, if you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with you on this and other initiatives throughout the remainder of the session.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy H. Alvey, Chairman

cc: Senator John Bailey
Delegate Brian Crosby
Delegate Todd Morgan
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Commissioners of St. Mary's County
George A. Erichsen, Executive Director, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission
R. Christopher Beaver, General Counsel, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

3-27-2025 HB 491 Testimony Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: George Erichsen

Position: FAV



St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

23121 Camden Way, California, MD 20619

Serving our customers since 1964

www.metcom.org

Potable Water Distribution - Wastewater Collection / Treatment

Phone: 301-737-7400
FAX: 301-737-7459

March 27, 2025

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **Testimony in Support of HB 491**
St. Mary's County – Metropolitan Commission

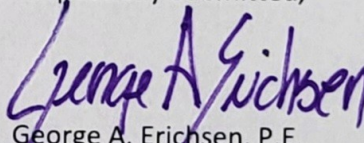
Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

We greatly appreciate the introduction of this Bill, which represents the joint efforts of the Southern Maryland Delegation, the Metropolitan Commission and Commissioners of St. Mary's County over the past several years to help modernize and update the local Code.

The proposed revisions will serve three primary purposes: **(1)** Provides authority / flexibility for the discontinuance of service caused by accidental (*ie. fires*), manmade (*ie. vandalism*), or natural disasters (*ie. tornados*) and temporary relief / suspension of certain charges until service is restored. Currently, the only provision available to discontinue service is due to non-payment; **(2)** Ensures consistency with the balance of the Chapter which addresses both public water and sewer and removes confusing /outdated text; and **(3)** Enables the Commission to recoup actual costs (*ie. time and materials in excess of \$1,000*) resulting from damage to public utilities caused by third parties which should not be borne by the Commission's customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on the above referenced House Bill. In the interim, if you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either myself at 240-298-6106 or Mr. R. Christopher Beaver at 917-806-7314.

Respectfully Submitted,


George A. Erichsen, P.E.
Executive Director

cc: Senator John Bailey
Delegate Brian Crosby
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Todd Morgan
Commissioners of St. Mary's County
St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission
R. Christopher Beaver, General Counsel, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

SenatorBailey_FAV_HB491.pdf

Uploaded by: Jack Bailey

Position: FAV

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Budget & Taxation Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 401
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3673 • 301-858-3673
800-492-7122 Ext. 3673
Jack.Bailey@senate.state.md.us

District Office
Dorsey Professional Park
23680 Three Notch Road, Unit 101
Hollywood, Maryland 20636
240-309-4238

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

**Re: Letter of Support for House Bill 491 – St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission -
Discontinuance of Service**

Dear Chair Feldman:

As the Senator representing St. Mary's County, I am writing to state my support for House Bill 491 – St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service.

I respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 491. Thank you for your consideration of this local St. Mary's County bill. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey".

Senator Jack Bailey
District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

056 - LOS HB 491 EEE Committee.pdf

Uploaded by: Randy Guy

Position: FAV

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

HB 491 - St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service

SUPPORT

March 18, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

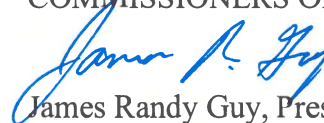
RE: HB 491 - St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service

Dear Chairman Feldman:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County **SUPPORT House Bill 491 - St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service** which is being heard in the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

We request a favorable report on House Bill 491. We support the introduction of this legislation and believe it would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. Thank you for your consideration as well as your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY


James Randy Guy, President

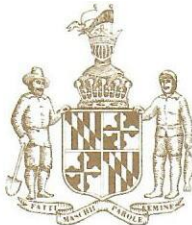
CSMC/AB/tr
T:/Consent/2025/056

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey
Delegate Todd Morgan
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Brian Crosby
Commissioner Mike Alderson, Jr.
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

HB491 SMC Senate LOS_0001.pdf

Uploaded by: Todd Morgan

Position: FAV



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION

March 25, 2025

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB491 St. Mary's County – Metropolitan Commission – Discontinuance of Service

Chair Feldman, Vic-Chair Kagan and committee members:

The St. Mary's county Delegation supports HB491 St. Mary's County – Metropolitan Commission – Discontinuance of Services with a three (3) Yea votes and one (1) absent member.

HB491 allows the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission to discontinue all or part of water or sewer service provided to an improved private property which has been determined to be unsafe for human occupancy due to an accident or natural disaster. It also requires the suspension of the ready-to-serve charge on some private properties and gives the Commission administrative and judicial enforcement for violations of rules and regulations.

The St. Mary's County Delegation asks for the committee's consideration of HB491 and a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,

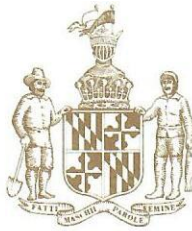
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd B. Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "M" at the end.

Todd B. Morgan
Chair, St. Mary's County Delegation

HB491 SMC Senate Testimony_0001.pdf

Uploaded by: Todd Morgan

Position: FAV



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION

March 25, 2025

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of HB491 St. Mary's County – Metropolitan Commission – Discontinuance of Service

Chair Feldman, Vic-Chair Kagan and committee members:

HB491 allows the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission to discontinue all or part of water or sewer service provided to an improved private property which has been determined to be unsafe for human occupancy due to an accident or natural disaster. It also requires the suspension of the ready-to-serve charge on some private properties and gives the Commission administrative and judicial enforcement for violations of rules and regulations.

The St. Mary's County Delegation asks for the committee's consideration of HB491 and a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd B. Morgan".

Todd B. Morgan
Chair, St. Mary's County Delegation