

## Chapter 640

**(Senate Bill 135)**

AN ACT concerning

**Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility – Establishment**

FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That:

(a) There is a Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility.

(b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

~~(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;~~

~~(2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;~~

~~(3)~~ (1) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

~~(4)~~ (2) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

~~(5)~~ (3) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

~~(6)~~ (4) the Mayor of Westernport;

~~(7)~~ (5) one member from the Board of County Commissioners for Allegany County;

~~(8)~~ (6) the Director of Public Works for Allegany County;

~~(9)~~ (7) the Chair of the Upper Potomac River Commission; and

~~(10)~~ (8) a member of the Upper Potomac River Commission who is not the Chair.

(c) The Chair of the Upper Potomac River Commission shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.

- (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Workgroup.
- (e) A member of the Workgroup:
  - (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but
  - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (f) The Workgroup shall:
  - (1) identify and study the existing funding sources that support the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility;
  - (2) study whether increased funding could enhance operations at the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility;
  - (3) study the funding sources of comparable wastewater treatment facilities in the mid-Atlantic region;
  - (4) study available and potential federal, State, and local funding sources for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility; and
  - (5) make recommendations regarding:
    - (i) whether additional funding could improve the operations of the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility; and
    - (ii) the existing and prospective federal, State, and local funding sources for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- (g) On or before December 1, 2024, the Workgroup shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2025, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.**