
By: **Delegate Edwards**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Land Reclamation Committee - Members - Statement of Employment and**
3 **Financial Interests**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring members of the Land Reclamation Committee to file a
5 United States Department of the Interior State Employee Statement of
6 Employment and Financial Interests.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Environment
9 Section 15-204(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Environment**

15 15-204.

16 (a) (1) There is a Land Reclamation Committee. It consists of the following
17 13 members:

18 (i) Two members of the Department, including a chairman of the
19 Committee appointed by the Secretary;

20 (ii) A representative of the soil conservation district of Allegany
21 County;

22 (iii) A representative of the soil conservation district of Garrett
23 County;

24 (iv) Two members appointed by the Governor with the advice and
25 consent of the Senate for 3-year terms to represent the mining industry;

1 (v) One member who is a representative of Allegany County to be
2 appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Allegany County
3 Commissioners, with the advice and consent of the Senate to represent the local
4 government for a 3-year term;

5 (vi) One member who is a representative of Garrett County to be
6 appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Garrett County
7 Commissioners, with the advice and consent of the House of Delegates to represent
8 local government for a 3-year term;

9 (vii) Two members from the community who do not have any
10 interests in any mining operation, one to be a resident of Garrett County and one to
11 be a resident of Allegany County, appointed by the Secretary for 3-year terms; and

12 (viii) Three members of the Department of Natural Resources
13 appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

14 (2) Committee members representing the community or local
15 government shall receive the per diem set by the Secretary for each day they meet
16 with the Committee or are called on by the chairman to transact other business of the
17 Committee. Funds for the per diem allowances shall be provided for in the budget of
18 the Department.

19 (3) The Committee shall meet at the chairman's request and at least
20 twice a year. A quorum consists of at least 9 members. No action may be approved by
21 the Committee unless a quorum is present and a majority of those present approves
22 the action.

23 (4) MEMBERS OF THE LAND RECLAMATION COMMITTEE SHALL FILE A
24 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR STATE EMPLOYEE STATEMENT OF
25 EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS.

26 [(4)] (5) Committee members shall recuse themselves from proceedings
27 that may affect their direct or indirect financial interests.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 2001.