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By: **Senators Stone and Collins** Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2001 Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: March 13, 2001

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

2

Environment - Noise Inspectors

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to employ a certain

- 4 number of noise inspectors to enforce certain sound level limits and noise control
- 5 regulations: authorizing noise inspectors to issue civil citations for certain
- 6 violations; establishing a maximum civil penalty that may be imposed on
- 7 violators who are issued certain civil citations; and authorizing a right of appeal
- 8 <u>under certain circumstances</u>.

9 BY adding to

- 10 Article Environment
- 11 Section 3-403.1
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16

Article - Environment

17 3-403.1.

18 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EMPLOY THREE TWO NOISE INSPECTORS TO
 19 ENFORCE THE SOUND LEVEL LIMITS AND NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS ADOPTED
 20 UNDER THIS TITLE.

SENATE BILL 376

1(B)A NOISE INSPECTOR EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A CIVIL2CITATION TO A PERSON FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THIS TITLE OR ANY SOUND LEVEL3LIMIT OR NOISE CONTROL REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS TITLE.

4 (C) (1) <u>A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS TITLE OR A REGULATION ADOPTED</u>
5 <u>UNDER THIS TITLE AND IS ISSUED A CIVIL CITATION UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS</u>
6 <u>SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF NOT MORE THAN \$500.</u>

7(2)ANY MONEY COLLECTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE8DEPOSITED INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

9 (3) <u>ANY PERSON ISSUED WITH A CITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION</u>
 10 <u>MAY APPEAL THE CITATION TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS IN</u>
 11 ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-205 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 13 October 1, 2001.