

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1244 (Delegates Edwards and Guns)

Commerce and Government Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

**Municipal Water and Sewerage Systems - Unpaid Sewerage Charges -
Disconnection of Water Service**

This bill authorizes a political subdivision to disconnect water service for a property if a bill for sewerage service is unpaid for 30 days after being sent. The bill requires the political subdivision to provide notice by mail to the last known address of the owner of the property or post the notice on the premises prior to disconnecting water service. The bill also authorizes a political subdivision to disconnect water service to a property if notified by another political subdivision of unpaid sewerage service. The bill also authorizes a political subdivision to require full payment of the sewerage bill plus a reconnection charge reasonably related to the cost of reconnection as established by regulation. The provisions of the bill do not preclude any political subdivision from using any other procedure available to collect unpaid sewerage charges.

The bill repeals current law that deals with unpaid sewerage charges and the disconnection of water service by the Garrett County Sanitary Commission. This repeal may not be construed to have any effect on any action taken or initiated by the Garrett County Sanitary Commission in collecting unpaid charges or disconnecting water service.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill's requirements could be handled with existing local government resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: The same legislation was introduced in 1999 as HB 691 and was reported unfavorably by the Environmental Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery and Prince George's counties, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, City of Havre de Grace, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 6, 2001
ef/hlb Revised – House Third Reader – March 23, 2001

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