

HOUSE BILL 659

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M3

2002 Regular Session
(21r2078)

ENROLLED BILL

-- *Environmental Matters/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* --

Introduced by **Delegates Morhaim and Redmer, Redmer, Zirkin, Carlson, Boutin, and Stern**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Water Security and Sewerage Systems Advisory Council -**
3 **Committee on Wastewater Treatment Systems**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing an Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage
5 Systems *and an Interagency Technical Assistance Committee on Wastewater*
6 *Treatment Systems* in the State; specifying the membership and duties of the
7 Advisory Council *and of the Committee*; providing for the appointment of the
8 chairman of the Advisory Council *and of the Committee*; providing for Advisory
9 Council *and Committee* staff; prohibiting a member of the Advisory Council *or*
10 *the Committee* from receiving compensation for serving on the Advisory Council
11 *or the Committee*; authorizing a member of the Advisory Council *and of the*
12 *Committee* to receive reimbursement for specified expenses; *providing for the*
13 *termination of certain provisions of this Act*; requiring a certain report; and
14 generally relating to the Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage
15 Systems *and the Interagency Technical Assistance Committee on Wastewater*
16 *Treatment Systems* in the State.

1 Preamble

2 WHEREAS, The Governor's Task Force on Upgrading Sewerage Systems
3 delivered its report in December 2001; and

4 WHEREAS, That report clearly indicates that the water and sewer pollution
5 will last for decades and will cost millions of dollars to solve; and

6 WHEREAS, The redesign, modification, repair, and improvement of sewerage
7 systems will challenge architects and engineers; and

8 WHEREAS, The State, counties, and municipalities will need to address this
9 issue continually; and

10 WHEREAS, Clean water is essential for all life and human activity; now,
11 therefore,

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

14 (a) There is a State Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage
15 Systems.

16 (b) The Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

17 (1) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
18 the House;

19 (2) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
20 of the Senate;

21 (3) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

22 (4) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (5) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
24 designee;

25 ~~(4)~~ (6) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Commission,
26 designated by the Chesapeake Bay Commission;

27 ~~(5)~~ (7) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation,
28 designated by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;

29 ~~(6)~~ (8) two representatives from the environmental community,
30 appointed by the Governor, one of which shall represent ~~safe waterways~~ Safe
31 Waterways in Maryland (SWIM);

32 ~~(7)~~ (9) two representatives designated by the Maryland Association of
33 Counties, of which one shall represent a county with a combined sewerage system;

1 ~~(8)~~ (10) two representatives designated by the Maryland Municipal
2 League, of which one shall represent a municipal corporation with a combined
3 sewerage system;

4 ~~(9)~~ (11) one representative of the Chesapeake Bay Program Office of the
5 United States Environmental Protection Agency; ~~and~~

6 ~~(10)~~ (12) one representative of the Johns Hopkins School of Public
7 Health, designated by the Dean;

8 ~~(11)~~ (13) one engineer with expertise in water and sewage issues;

9 ~~(12)~~ (14) one representative of the Washington Suburban Sanitary
10 Commission;

11 ~~(13)~~ (15) one person from a law enforcement or security agency with
12 specific experience in antiterrorism, appointed by the Governor; and

13 ~~(14)~~ (16) one person from a Maryland educational research institution
14 with specific expertise in water disinfection technologies, appointed by the Governor.

15 (c) The Governor shall appoint the chairman of the Advisory Council.

16 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Advisory
17 Council.

18 (e) A member may not receive compensation for serving on the Advisory
19 Council, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
20 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

21 (f) The Advisory Council shall:

22 (1) study new and innovative technologies relating to water security and
23 sewerage systems and compare the costs of new technologies with current practices;

24 (2) develop a priority funding system for implementing new technology;

25 (3) develop a plan for regular evaluations at timed intervals;

26 (4) develop methods for public education;

27 (5) develop plans to provide technical assistance to small and medium
28 communities;

29 (6) study user rates;

30 (7) reevaluate and refine local needs data;

31 (8) evaluate and review certain water quality regulations and criteria to
32 improve the waters and prevent interim degradation; ~~and~~

- 1 (9) review the effectiveness of water and sewer plans;
- 2 (10) study and assess the levels, potential health effects, and persistence
3 of chlorination by-products in the water supply as they may affect individuals living
4 and working in Maryland;
- 5 (11) assess alternative methods of disinfection ~~that may involve lower~~
6 levels of chlorination by products in of the water supply, and the potential health
7 effects, both risks and benefits, that may accrue from using these alternative
8 methods;
- 9 (12) study the environmental and public health issues surrounding the
10 use of chlorine and alternative methods of disinfection in drinking water and
11 wastewater treatment;
- 12 (13) perform a risk assessment and cost analysis relating to the use of
13 chlorine and alternative methods of disinfection in drinking water and wastewater
14 treatment; and
- 15 (14) examine the security issues surrounding the use and storage of
16 chlorine and alternative methods of disinfection in drinking water and wastewater
17 treatment.

18 (g) The Advisory Council shall report its findings and recommendations to the
19 General Assembly on or before December 1, 2004, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
20 State Government Article.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

22 (a) There is an Interagency Technical Assistance Committee on Wastewater
23 Treatment Systems.

24 (b) The Committee shall consist of at least 12 members, including
25 representatives appointed by each of the following agencies and organizations:

- 26 (1) the Department of Housing and Community Development;
- 27 (2) the Department of Planning;
- 28 (3) the Maryland Environmental Service;
- 29 (4) the FORVM for Rural Maryland;
- 30 (5) the Maryland Center for Environmental Training;
- 31 (6) the Environmental Finance Center;
- 32 (7) the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development;
- 33 (8) the Maryland Municipal League;

1 (9) the Maryland Association of Counties;

2 (10) the Maryland Rural Water Association;

3 (11) the Chesapeake Bay Foundation; and

4 (12) Safe Waterways in Maryland (SWIM).

5 (c) The members shall elect a chairman from among the members of the
6 Committee.

7 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Committee.

8 (e) A member may not receive compensation for serving on the Committee, but
9 is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel
10 Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

11 (f) The Committee shall implement a recommendation of the Governor's Task
12 Force on Upgrading Sewerage Systems by advising local jurisdictions on the efficient
13 operation and financial management of wastewater treatment systems.

14 (g) The Committee shall report to the State Advisory Council on Water Security
15 and Sewerage Systems on or before November 1 of each year.

16 SECTION ~~2~~. 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
17 effect October 1, 2002. ~~§~~ Section 1 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 3
18 years and, at the end of September 30, 2005, with no further action required by the
19 General Assembly, Section 1 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and
20 effect.