
By: **Delegates Morhaim and Redmer**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2002
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Water Security and Sewerage Systems Advisory Council**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing an Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage
4 Systems in the State; specifying the membership and duties of the Advisory
5 Council; providing for the appointment of the chairman of the Advisory Council;
6 providing for Advisory Council staff; prohibiting a member of the Advisory
7 Council from receiving compensation for serving on the Advisory Council;
8 authorizing a member of the Advisory Council to receive reimbursement for
9 specified expenses; requiring a certain report; and generally relating to the
10 Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage Systems in the State.

11 **Preamble**

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

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

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

18 WHEREAS, The State, counties, and municipalities will need to address this
19 issue continually; and

20 WHEREAS, Clean water is essential for all life and human activity; now,
21 therefore,

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

24 (a) There is a State Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage
25 Systems.

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

- 1 (1) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
2 the House;
- 3 (2) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
4 of the Senate;
- 5 (3) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;
- 6 (4) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Commission,
7 designated by the Chesapeake Bay Commission;
- 8 (5) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, designated
9 by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;
- 10 (6) two representatives from the environmental community, appointed
11 by the Governor, one of which shall represent safe waterways in Maryland (SWIM);
- 12 (7) two representatives designated by the Maryland Association of
13 Counties, of which one shall represent a county with a combined sewerage system;
- 14 (8) two representatives designated by the Maryland Municipal League,
15 of which one shall represent a municipal corporation with a combined sewerage
16 system;
- 17 (9) one representative of the Chesapeake Bay Program Office of the
18 United States Environmental Protection Agency; and
- 19 (10) one representative of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health,
20 designated by the Dean;
- 21 (11) one engineer with expertise in water and sewage issues;
- 22 (12) one representative of the Washington Suburban Sanitary
23 Commission.
- 24 (c) The Governor shall appoint the chairman of the Advisory Council.
- 25 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Advisory
26 Council.
- 27 (e) A member may not receive compensation for serving on the Advisory
28 Council, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
29 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 30 (f) The Advisory Council shall:
- 31 (1) study new and innovative technologies relating to water security and
32 sewerage systems and compare the costs of new technologies with current practices;
- 33 (2) develop a priority funding system for implementing new technology;

- 1 (3) develop a plan for regular evaluations at timed intervals;
- 2 (4) develop methods for public education;
- 3 (5) develop plans to provide technical assistance to small and medium
4 communities;
- 5 (6) study user rates;
- 6 (7) reevaluate and refine local needs data;
- 7 (8) evaluate and review certain water quality regulations and criteria to
8 improve the waters and prevent interim degradation; and
- 9 (9) review the effectiveness of water and sewer plans.

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

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2002.