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By: ~~Delegates Morhaim and Redmer~~, Redmer, Zirkin, Carlson, Boutin, and Stern

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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; providing for the termination of this Act; requiring a certain  
10 report; and generally relating to the Advisory Council on Water Security and  
11 Sewerage Systems in the State.

12 Preamble

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (a) There is a State Advisory Council on Water Security and Sewerage  
4 Systems.

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

6 (1) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
7 the House;

8 (2) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
9 of the Senate;

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

11 (4) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Commission,  
12 designated by the Chesapeake Bay Commission;

13 (5) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, designated  
14 by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;

15 (6) two representatives from the environmental community, appointed  
16 by the Governor, one of which shall represent safe waterways in Maryland (SWIM);

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

19 (8) two representatives designated by the Maryland Municipal League,  
20 of which one shall represent a municipal corporation with a combined sewerage  
21 system;

22 (9) one representative of the Chesapeake Bay Program Office of the  
23 United States Environmental Protection Agency; ~~and~~

24 (10) one representative of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health,  
25 designated by the Dean;

26 (11) one engineer with expertise in water and sewage issues;

27 (12) one representative of the Washington Suburban Sanitary  
28 Commission;

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

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

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

1 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Advisory  
2 Council.

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

6 (f) The Advisory Council shall:

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

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

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

11 (4) develop methods for public education;

12 (5) develop plans to provide technical assistance to small and medium  
13 communities;

14 (6) study user rates;

15 (7) reevaluate and refine local needs data;

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

18 (9) review the effectiveness of water and sewer plans;

19 (10) study and assess the levels, potential health effects, and persistence  
20 of chlorination by-products in the water supply as they may affect individuals living  
21 and working in Maryland;

22 (11) assess alternative methods of disinfection that may involve lower  
23 levels of chlorination by-products in the water supply, and the potential health  
24 effects, both risks and benefits, that may accrue from using these alternative  
25 methods;

26 (12) study the environmental and public health issues surrounding the  
27 use of chlorine in drinking water and wastewater treatment;

28 (13) perform a risk assessment and cost analysis relating to the use of  
29 chlorine in drinking water and wastewater treatment; and

30 (14) examine the security issues surrounding the use and storage of  
31 chlorine in drinking water and wastewater treatment.

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

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