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By: **Delegate Owings (By Request)**  
Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2002  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Underground Oil and Gas Storage Tanks - Testing and**  
3 **Inspection**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring owners of certain underground oil and gas storage  
5 tanks located within a certain distance of the Chesapeake Bay to test or inspect  
6 the tank for leaks in accordance with a certain schedule; requiring owners of  
7 certain tanks to maintain records of regular testing or inspection; requiring  
8 owners of certain tanks to contact the Maryland Department of the  
9 Environment within a certain period of time if a leak is detected; requiring the  
10 Department to adopt certain regulations relating to the methods of testing or  
11 inspecting tanks; and generally relating to underground oil and gas storage  
12 tanks.

13 BY adding to  
14 Article - Environment  
15 Section 4-409.1  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Environment**

21 4-409.1.

22 (A) NOTWITHSTANDING § 4-401(K)(2)(I) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR PURPOSES OF  
23 THIS SECTION "UNDERGROUND OIL AND GAS STORAGE TANK" SHALL INCLUDE ALL  
24 UNDERGROUND OIL AND GAS STORAGE TANKS, REGARDLESS OF SIZE.

25 (B) THE OWNER OF AN UNDERGROUND OIL AND GAS STORAGE TANK  
26 LOCATED WITHIN 300 YARDS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY OR ITS TRIBUTARIES AS  
27 INDICATED ON THE STATE WETLANDS MAPS SHALL:

28 (1) TEST OR INSPECT THE TANK EVERY 2 YEARS FOR LEAKS; AND

1           (2)     MAINTAIN RECORDS DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
2 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

3     (C)     IF A LEAK IS DETECTED, THE OWNER SHALL CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT  
4 WITHIN 2 HOURS OF DETECTING THE LEAK.

5     (D)     THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH  
6 APPROVED METHODS BY WHICH AN OWNER OF AN UNDERGROUND OIL AND GAS  
7 STORAGE TANK MAY TEST OR INSPECT THE TANK AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

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