
By: **Delegate Zirkin**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Wastewater Treatment - Use of Chlorine and Ultraviolet**
3 **Light**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting on or after a certain date a public or private sewage
5 treatment plant from using chlorine or chlorine compounds in the treatment of
6 discharged wastewater; requiring on or after a certain date a public or private
7 sewage treatment plant to use ultraviolet light in the treatment of discharged
8 wastewater; prohibiting the Department of the Environment from issuing a
9 permit allowing on or after a certain date the use of chlorine or chlorine
10 compounds in the treatment of wastewater discharged from a public or private
11 sewage treatment plant; altering a certain maximum chlorine discharge
12 standard effective on or after a certain date; and generally relating to the use of
13 chlorine and ultraviolet light in the treatment of wastewater discharged from a
14 public or private sewage treatment plant.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article - Environment
17 Section 9-329 and 9-329.1
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Environment**

23 9-329.

24 (a) Except as otherwise prohibited in subsection (b) of this section AND
25 SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, the Department may issue a permit
26 that allows the use of chlorine or chlorine compounds in treatment of wastewaters
27 discharged from any publicly or privately owned sewage treatment plant to any
28 surface waters of this State only if the treatment of the wastewaters includes
29 dechlorination.

1 (b) (1) This subsection is not effective unless matching federal funds are
2 available to implement the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection.

3 (2) This subsection does not apply to sewerage treatment facilities that
4 discharge an amount of treated sewage less than 1 percent of the 7-day, 10-year low
5 flow of the receiving stream.

6 (3) The Department may not issue a permit that allows the use of
7 chlorine or chlorine compounds in the treatment of wastewaters discharged into any
8 waters of this State that are designated by the Department as natural trout waters
9 and their tributaries.

10 (4) (i) This subsection applies to any local subdivision that owns or
11 operates an existing treatment system that is required to convert from use of
12 chlorination to another system in order to be permitted under this subtitle.

13 (ii) If the local subdivision applied for assistance from the
14 Environmental Protection Agency on or before September 30, 1981, the conversion
15 costs not funded by the Environmental Protection Agency may be covered with State
16 funds as provided in the State budget.

17 (iii) If the local subdivision failed to apply for assistance from the
18 Environmental Protection Agency on or before September 30, 1981, conversion costs
19 ordinarily met by the Environmental Protection Agency and this State shall be the
20 responsibility of the local subdivision.

21 (C) (1) ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2006, IN THE TREATMENT OF
22 WASTEWATERS DISCHARGED FROM ANY PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY OWNED SEWAGE
23 TREATMENT PLANT, THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT:

24 (I) SHALL USE ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT; AND

25 (II) MAY NOT USE CHLORINE OR CHLORINE COMPOUNDS.

26 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE A PERMIT THAT:

27 (I) ALLOWS THE USE OF CHLORINE OR CHLORINE COMPOUNDS IN
28 TREATMENT OF WASTEWATERS DISCHARGED FROM ANY PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY
29 OWNED SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT TO ANY SURFACE WATERS OF THIS STATE; AND

30 (II) IS IN EFFECT ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2006.

31 9-329.1.

32 (a) This section does not apply to:

33 (1) A publicly or privately owned sewage treatment plant; or

34 (2) The discharge of any chlorine or chlorine products that are present
35 due to their occurrence as a natural constituent of saline water.

1 (b) A person who has a discharge permit may not discharge chlorine or
2 chlorine products into the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries during April and May of
3 any year at a level that is greater than:

4 (1) BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2006, the chlorine discharge level that is
5 applicable to a publicly or privately owned sewage treatment plant under § 9-329 of
6 this subtitle; AND

7 (2) ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2006, THE CHLORINE DISCHARGE LEVEL
8 DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH
9 THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

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