
By: **Delegates Leopold, Cadden, Dwyer, Love, V. Clagett, Costa, Sophocleus,
Rzepkowski, McMillan, McConkey, and Boschert**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2003

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Housing and Community Development - Radium Pilot Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a Radium Pilot Grant Program within the Department of
4 Housing and Community Development; authorizing counties to participate in
5 the program; establishing the purpose of and certain conditions and criteria for
6 the program; authorizing the Department to adopt regulations necessary to
7 implement the program; requiring the Department to establish a formula for
8 awarding grants; making this Act contingent on the availability of funding in
9 the State budget; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
10 relating to the creation of a Radium Pilot Grant Program.

11 BY adding to

12 Article 83B - Department of Housing and Community Development
13 Section 2-314
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

18 **Article 83B - Department of Housing and Community Development**

19 2-314.

20 (A) THERE IS A RADIUM PILOT GRANT PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

21 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
22 TO RESIDENTIAL WELL OWNERS WHO INCUR THE COST OF ADDING A WATER
23 FILTRATION SYSTEM TO REMOVE RADIUM FROM WELL WATER.

24 (C) A COUNTY MAY CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

25 (D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY AWARD A GRANT UNDER THE
26 PROGRAM TO A RESIDENTIAL WELL OWNER WHO RESIDES IN A COUNTY THAT
27 PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM.

1 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS THAT ARE EQUAL IN
2 AMOUNT TO EACH GRANT AWARDED BY A COUNTY THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE
3 PROGRAM.

4 (E) A COUNTY THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM SHALL
5 PROCESS GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM WELL OWNERS.

6 (F) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION, A WELL OWNER:

7 (1) SHALL TEST A WELL AND FIND THE WELL TO CONTAIN RADIUM
8 LEVELS ABOVE THE LEVEL RECOMMENDED BY THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL
9 PROTECTION AGENCY;

10 (2) SHALL HAVE INSTALLED A WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM FOR THE
11 PURPOSE OF REMOVING EXCESS LEVELS OF RADIUM FROM WELL WATER; AND

12 (3) MAY NOT EARN MORE THAN 110% OF THE STATEWIDE OR THE
13 WASHINGTON, D.C. METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA MEDIAN INCOME.

14 (G) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO COUNTIES A
15 FORMULA FOR AWARDED GRANTS.

16 (2) THE FORMULA SHALL BE A SLIDING SCALE BASED ON INCOME AND
17 IMPLEMENTED IN A MANNER SO THAT WELL OWNERS WITH LOWER INCOMES ARE
18 ELIGIBLE FOR LARGER GRANTS AND WELL OWNERS WITH HIGHER INCOMES ARE
19 ELIGIBLE FOR SMALLER GRANTS.

20 (H) THE COMBINED COUNTY AND STATE GRANT MAY NOT EXCEED 25% AND
21 MAY NOT BE LESS THAN 10% OF THE COST OF THE WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM
22 INSTALLED BY THE WELL OWNER.

23 (I) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT
24 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the implementation of
26 this Act is subject to the availability of funds in the State budget.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 July 1, 2003. Upon the implementation of this Act as provided in Section 2 of this Act,
29 this Act shall remain in effect for a period of 3 years, and on June 30 at the end of the
30 third year after its implementation, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force
31 and effect.