2004 Regular Session 4lr1988

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By: Washington County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

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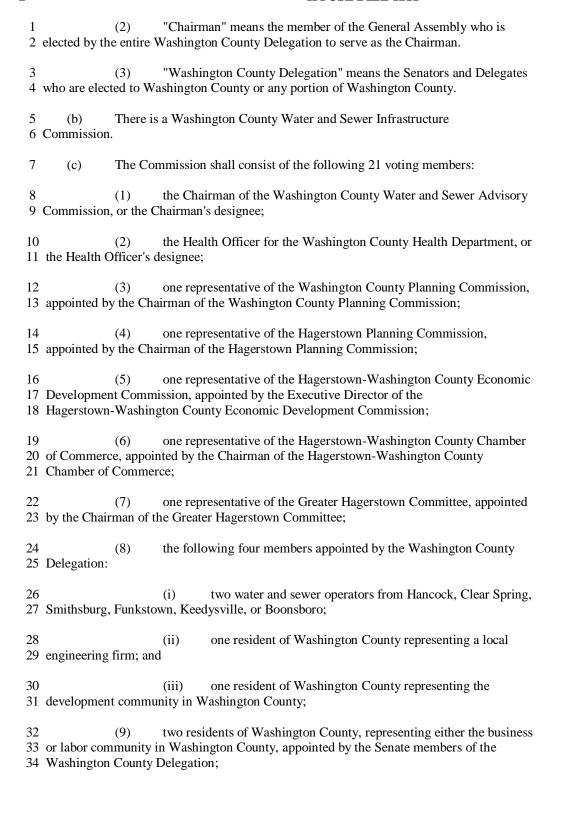
2 Washington County Water and Sewer Infrastructure Commission

- 3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Washington County Water and Sewer
- 4 Infrastructure Commission; specifying the membership of the Commission and
- 5 certain work groups within the Commission; specifying the duties of the
- 6 Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission; requiring the
- 7 Commission to issue certain reports by certain dates to the Washington County
- 8 Delegation, the Washington County Board of County Commissioners, and the
- 9 Hagerstown City Council; providing for the termination of this Act; and
- 10 generally relating to the establishment of a Washington County Water and
- 11 Sewer Infrastructure Commission.

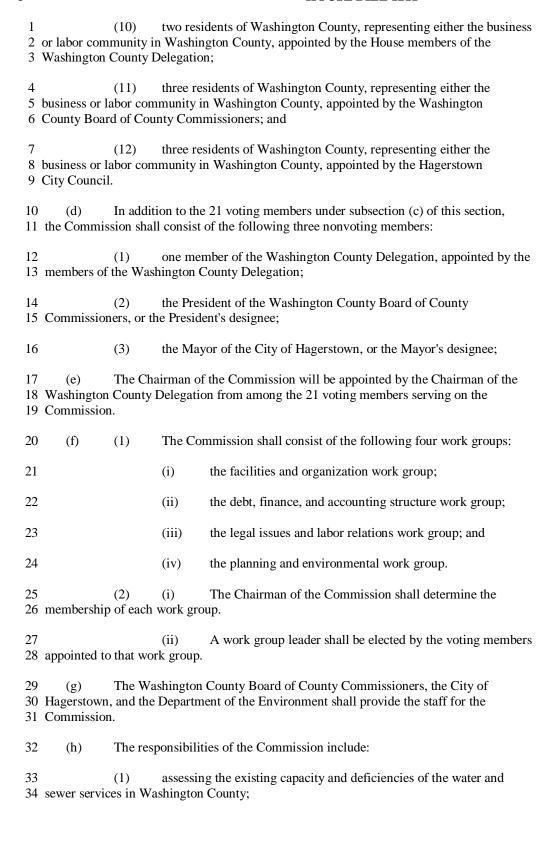
12 Preamble

- WHEREAS, Government officials from Washington County, including the City
- 14 of Hagerstown and the other municipalities of the County, recognize the critical
- 15 importance of safe drinking water for all residents of the County, and the necessity for
- 16 clean water if the County is to maintain the population growth it has experienced
- 17 over the last decade; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Government officials from Washington County, including the City
- 19 of Hagerstown and the other municipalities of the County, recognize that the proper
- 20 treatment and handling of wastewater is critical to the public health and safety of all
- 21 residents in Washington County; and
- 22 WHEREAS, Government officials from Washington County, including the City
- 23 of Hagerstown and the other municipalities of the County, recognize the critical
- 24 importance of working in concert with each other for the betterment of each resident
- 25 in the County, specifically with regard to providing safe drinking water and properly
- 26 treating and handling wastewater; now, therefore,
- 27 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 28 MARYLAND, That:
- 29 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

HOUSE BILL 1211



HOUSE BILL 1211



HOUSE BILL 1211

1 reviewing the State and federal regulatory requirements with regard (2) 2 to providing water and sewer services; 3 reviewing and analyzing the future growth projections for 4 Washington County, and the impact that growth will have on water and sewer 5 services throughout Washington County; examining the water and sewer services provided by neighboring 6 7 regions and other counties and municipalities throughout the State; considering various options as to how future water and sewer 8 9 services can be achieved in an efficient and cost effective manner, while ensuring that 10 the system will continue to service public health needs of the residents of Washington 11 County; 12 considering how to balance the current and future economic 13 development objectives of Washington County with issues arising from water and 14 sewer services in Washington County; 15 considering the readiness with which the municipalities located 16 within Washington County are equipped to handle the water and sewer needs of these 17 areas in conjunction with the future growth of Washington County; 18 considering an efficiency and cost-savings analysis of creating a 19 regional authority that would consolidate the City of Hagerstown and Washington 20 County water and sewer departments; and 21 considering the feasibility of expanding a regional authority beyond 22 consolidating the City of Hagerstown and Washington County water and sewer 23 departments. 24 (i) The Commission shall develop a long term plan that: 25 identifies critical areas of need with regard to water and sewer (1) 26 services in Washington County; and 27 addresses how to meet Washington County's water and sewer needs 28 through 2055, including the options of consolidation or regionalization of services, 29 joint service agreements, or regional authorities. 30 The Commission shall submit an interim report of its findings to the (i) 31 Washington County Delegation, the Washington County Board of County 32 Commissioners, and the Hagerstown City Council on or before January 1, 2005. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and 33 (k) 34 recommendations to the Washington County Delegation, the Washington County 35 Board of County Commissioners, and the Hagerstown City Council on or before June 36 30, 2006.

- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 1
- 2 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 3 30, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
- 4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.