
By: **Senator Haines**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety - Fire Companies - Limited Access to Private Water Sources**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a fire company, if there is no other water system
4 available to extinguish a fire or mitigate an emergency, to enter private property
5 to obtain water from a private water source to extinguish the fire or mitigate the
6 emergency incident; and generally relating to limited access to private water
7 sources by fire companies in response to emergencies.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Public Safety
10 Section 7-403
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Public Safety**

16 7-403.

17 IF NO PUBLIC WATER SOURCE IS AVAILABLE TO A FIRE COMPANY TO SUPPLY
18 WATER TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE OR MITIGATE AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT, A FIRE
19 COMPANY MAY ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY TO OBTAIN WATER FROM A PRIVATE
20 WATER SOURCE, SUCH AS A PRIVATELY OWNED POND, LAKE, RIVER, STREAM, CANAL,
21 CISTERN, OR SWIMMING POOL, TO EXTINGUISH THE FIRE OR OTHERWISE MITIGATE
22 THE EMERGENCY INCIDENT.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
24 effect October 1, 2006.