

HOUSE BILL 1423

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8lr2966
CF SB 674

By: **Delegates Hecht, Barkley, Beidle, Cardin, G. Clagett, V. Clagett, Howard, Kaiser, Lafferty, Lee, Niemann, Schuler, Shank, Sossi, Stull, Waldstreicher, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Water Resources – Groundwater Appropriation or Use – Priority Funding**
3 **Areas**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Maryland Department of the Environment to give
5 priority to a public water system that supplies water to a certain priority
6 funding area when appropriating or using groundwater of the State; and
7 generally relating to the appropriation or use of groundwater of the State.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Environment
10 Section 5–501
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Environment**

16 5–501.

17 (a) In order to conserve, protect, and use water resources of the State in
18 accordance with the best interests of the people of Maryland, it is the policy of the
19 State to control, so far as feasible, appropriation or use of surface waters and
20 groundwaters of the State. Also, it is State policy to promote public safety and welfare
21 and control and supervise, so far as is feasible, construction, reconstruction, and repair
22 of dams, reservoirs, and other waterworks in any waters of the State.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) WHEN APPROPRIATING OR USING GROUNDWATER OF THE STATE,**
2 **THE DEPARTMENT MAY GIVE PRIORITY TO A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM THAT**
3 **PROVIDES WATER TO A PRIORITY FUNDING AREA ESTABLISHED ON OR BEFORE**
4 **JANUARY 1, 1997, UNDER § 5-7B-03 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND**
5 **PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

6 **[(b)] (C)** This subtitle is in addition to and not in substitution for any
7 existing laws of the State.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2008.