

# HOUSE BILL 363

E4, R2

9lr0840

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By: **Delegates Taylor, V. Turner, Anderson, Barnes, Benson, Carr, Feldman, Ramirez, Rice, Robinson, and Ross**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2009

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Potomac River Bridges Security Zone Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Potomac River Bridges Security Zone Pilot  
4 Program in the Department of State Police; providing that the purpose of the  
5 Program is to provide a certain security zone in the water surrounding certain  
6 bridges on the Potomac River; requiring the Department to contract with a  
7 private security firm to patrol a certain security zone surrounding certain  
8 bridges; requiring a private security firm under the Program to patrol a certain  
9 security zone in a certain manner and perform certain functions; providing for  
10 Program funds; requiring the Secretary of State Police to submit a certain  
11 report concerning the Program annually to the General Assembly on or before a  
12 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; defining a certain term;  
13 and generally relating to the Potomac River Bridges Security Zone Pilot  
14 Program.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
16 Article – Public Safety  
17 Section 2–101(a), (e), and (l) and 2–301(a)(1)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2003 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

20 BY adding to  
21 Article – Public Safety  
22 Section 2–314  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2003 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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**Article – Public Safety**

2 2–101.

3 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

4 (e) “Department” means the Department of State Police.

5 (l) “Secretary” means the Secretary of State Police.

6 2–301.

7 (a) (1) The Department has the general duty to safeguard the lives and  
8 safety of all persons in the State, to protect property, and to assist in securing to all  
9 persons the equal protection of the laws.10 **2–314.**11 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE POTOMAC RIVER**  
12 **BRIDGES SECURITY ZONE PILOT PROGRAM.**13 **(B) THERE IS A POTOMAC RIVER BRIDGES SECURITY ZONE PILOT**  
14 **PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.**15 **(C) (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE A 500–FOOT**  
16 **SECURITY ZONE IN THE WATER SURROUNDING THE WOODROW WILSON**  
17 **MEMORIAL BRIDGE AND THE HARRY W. NICE MEMORIAL POTOMAC RIVER**  
18 **BRIDGE.**19 **(2) (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH A PRIVATE**  
20 **SECURITY FIRM TO PATROL THE SECURITY ZONE SURROUNDING EACH BRIDGE.**21 **(II) THE PRIVATE SECURITY FIRM SHALL PATROL THE**  
22 **SECURITY ZONE IN ONE OR MORE VESSELS PILOTED BY RETIRED MILITARY**  
23 **PERSONNEL AND MANNED BY RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS.**24 **(III) THE PRIVATE SECURITY FIRM PERSONNEL**  
25 **CONDUCTING THE PATROLS OF THE SECURITY ZONE SHALL:**26 **1. MONITOR THE SECURITY ZONE FOR POTENTIAL**  
27 **THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY; AND**28 **2. PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO RECREATIONAL**  
29 **BOATERS IN DISTRESS AS NEEDED.**

1           (D) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED BY THE  
2 GOVERNOR IN THE STATE BUDGET.

3           (E) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE SECRETARY  
4 SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246  
5 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE STATUS OF, AND THE BENEFITS  
6 ACCRUED FROM, THE POTOMAC RIVER BRIDGES SECURITY ZONE PILOT  
7 PROGRAM.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 October 1, 2009. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of  
10 September 30, 2012, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act  
11 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.