

# HOUSE BILL 666

N1

9lr1568  
CF SB 570

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By: **Delegate Braveboy**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2009

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Condominiums and Homeowners Associations - Reserves and Reserve**  
3 **Studies**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the governing body or the council of unit owners of  
5 certain condominiums to have a reserve study conducted of the common  
6 elements of the condominium by a certain date and at certain intervals under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring the reserve study conducted of the common  
8 elements of a condominium to meet certain criteria; requiring the governing  
9 body of certain homeowners associations or certain homeowners associations to  
10 have a reserve study conducted of the common areas of the homeowners  
11 association by a certain date and at certain intervals under certain  
12 circumstances; requiring the reserve study conducted of the common areas of a  
13 homeowners association to meet certain criteria; requiring the annual budget of  
14 a certain homeowners association development to provide for reserves under  
15 certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the  
16 reserves and reserve studies of condominiums and homeowners associations.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – Real Property  
19 Section 11–109.2 and 11–110(b)(1)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

22 BY adding to  
23 Article – Real Property  
24 Section 11–109.4 and 11B–112.2  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

27 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
28 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.



1 **Article – Real Property**

2 **11–109.2.**

3 (a) The council of unit owners shall cause to be prepared and submitted to  
4 the unit owners an annual proposed budget at least 30 days before its adoption.

5 (b) The annual budget shall provide for at least the following items:

6 (1) Income;

7 (2) Administration;

8 (3) Maintenance;

9 (4) Utilities;

10 (5) General expenses;

11 (6) Reserves; and

12 (7) Capital items.

13 (c) The budget shall be adopted at an open meeting of the council of unit  
14 owners or any other body to which the council of unit owners delegates responsibilities  
15 for preparing and adopting the budget.

16 (d) Any expenditure made other than those made because of conditions  
17 which, if not corrected, could reasonably result in a threat to the health or safety of the  
18 unit owners or a significant risk of damage to the condominium, that would result in  
19 an increase in an amount of assessments for the current fiscal year of the  
20 condominium in excess of 15 percent of the budgeted amount previously adopted, shall  
21 be approved by an amendment to the budget adopted at a special meeting, upon not  
22 less than 10 days written notice to the council of unit owners.

23 (e) The adoption of a budget shall not impair the authority of the council of  
24 unit owners to obligate the council of unit owners for expenditures for any purpose  
25 consistent with any provision of this title.

26 (f) The provisions of this section do not apply to a condominium that is  
27 occupied and used solely for nonresidential purposes.

28 **11–109.4.**

29 (A) **IN THIS SECTION, “RESERVE STUDY” MEANS A STUDY OF THE**  
30 **RESERVES REQUIRED FOR MAJOR REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT OF THE**

1 COMMON ELEMENTS OF A CONDOMINIUM CONDUCTED AT THE CONDOMINIUM'S  
2 EXPENSE AND IN A MANNER ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY.

3 (B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A CONDOMINIUM  
4 ESTABLISHED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2009.

5 (2) NOT MORE THAN 90 CALENDAR DAYS AND NOT LESS THAN 30  
6 CALENDAR DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS  
7 REQUIRED UNDER § 11-109(C)(16) OF THIS TITLE, THE GOVERNING BODY OF  
8 THE CONDOMINIUM SHALL HAVE AN INDEPENDENT RESERVE STUDY  
9 CONDUCTED OF ALL THE COMMON ELEMENTS.

10 (3) WITHIN 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE INITIAL RESERVE  
11 STUDY CONDUCTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AND AT  
12 LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER, THE COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS SHALL  
13 HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED.

14 (C) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A CONDOMINIUM  
15 ESTABLISHED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2009.

16 (2) IF A COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS HAS HAD A RESERVE STUDY  
17 CONDUCTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2005, THE COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS  
18 SHALL HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED WITHIN 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE  
19 OF THAT RESERVE STUDY AND AT LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER.

20 (3) IF A COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS HAS NOT HAD A RESERVE  
21 STUDY CONDUCTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2005, THE COUNCIL OF UNIT  
22 OWNERS SHALL HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED ON OR BEFORE  
23 OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND AT LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER.

24 (D) EACH RESERVE STUDY REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

25 (1) INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE  
26 PERSON WHO PREPARED THE RESERVE STUDY;

27 (2) BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND COPYING BY ANY UNIT  
28 OWNER;

29 (3) BE REVIEWED BY THE GOVERNING BODY IN CONNECTION  
30 WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL PROPOSED BUDGET; AND

31 (4) BE SUMMARIZED FOR SUBMISSION WITH THE ANNUAL  
32 PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE UNIT OWNERS.

1 11-110.

2 (b) (1) Funds for the payment of current common expenses and for the  
3 creation of reserves for the payment of future common expenses shall be obtained by  
4 assessments against the unit owners in proportion to their percentage interests in  
5 common expenses and common profits.

6 **11B-112.2.**

7 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "RESERVE STUDY" MEANS A STUDY OF THE  
8 RESERVES REQUIRED FOR MAJOR REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT OF THE  
9 COMMON AREAS OF A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION CONDUCTED AT THE  
10 HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION'S EXPENSE AND IN A MANNER ADOPTED BY THE  
11 GOVERNING BODY.

12 (B) (1) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A HOMEOWNERS  
13 ASSOCIATION THAT HAS RESPONSIBILITY UNDER ITS DECLARATION FOR  
14 MAINTAINING AND REPAIRING COMMON AREAS.

15 (2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A HOMEOWNERS  
16 ASSOCIATION THAT ISSUES BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEETING CAPITAL  
17 EXPENDITURES.

18 (C) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
19 ESTABLISHED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2009.

20 (2) NOT MORE THAN 90 CALENDAR DAYS AND NOT LESS THAN 30  
21 CALENDAR DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE HOMEOWNERS  
22 ASSOCIATION AT WHICH THE LOT OWNERS, OTHER THAN THE DECLARANT, HAVE  
23 A MAJORITY OF VOTES IN THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, THE GOVERNING  
24 BODY OF THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE AN INDEPENDENT  
25 RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED OF ALL THE COMMON AREAS.

26 (3) WITHIN 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE INITIAL RESERVE  
27 STUDY CONDUCTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AND AT  
28 LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER, THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SHALL  
29 HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED.

30 (D) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
31 ESTABLISHED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2009.

32 (2) IF A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION HAS HAD A RESERVE STUDY  
33 CONDUCTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2005, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
34 HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED

1 WITHIN 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THAT RESERVE STUDY AND AT LEAST  
2 EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER.

3 (3) IF A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION HAS NOT HAD A RESERVE  
4 STUDY CONDUCTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2005, THE GOVERNING BODY OF  
5 THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE A RESERVE STUDY CONDUCTED  
6 ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND AT LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER.

7 (E) EACH RESERVE STUDY REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

8 (1) INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE  
9 PERSON WHO PREPARED THE RESERVE STUDY;

10 (2) BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND COPYING BY ANY LOT  
11 OWNER;

12 (3) BE REVIEWED BY THE GOVERNING BODY IN CONNECTION  
13 WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL PROPOSED BUDGET; AND

14 (4) BE SUMMARIZED FOR SUBMISSION WITH THE ANNUAL  
15 PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE LOT OWNERS.

16 (F) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A DEVELOPMENT  
17 ESTABLISHED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2009.

18 (2) THE ANNUAL BUDGET SHALL PROVIDE FOR RESERVES.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2009.