

SENATE BILL 607

L2

9lr1804
CF HB 82

By: **Senators Brinkley and Mooney**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Frederick County – Overdue Water and Sewer Charge – Restoration of**
3 **Service Penalty**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the penalty imposed on water users in Frederick County
5 for restoring service after an overdue charge for water and sewer services has
6 been paid; and generally relating to water and sewer service charges in
7 Frederick County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 The Public Local Laws of Frederick County
10 Section 2–13–23(a)(1)
11 Article 11 – Public Local Laws of Maryland
12 (2004 Edition and September 2008 Supplement, as amended)

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

15 **Article 11 – Frederick County**

16 2–13–23.

17 (a) For the purpose of providing funds for maintaining, repairing, and
18 operating its water and sewerage systems and for its operation and other expenses,
19 including property depreciation allowances, and for interest on and the retirement of
20 bonds as specified in this chapter, the board may make the following charges:

21 (1) A water and sewer service charge. The rates for water and sewer
22 service shall consist of a minimum or ready-to-serve charge which shall be based
23 upon the size of the meter on the water connection leading to the property, and of a
24 charge for water used, which shall be based upon the amount of water passing through
25 the meter during the period between the last two readings. The meter shall be

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 required to be placed on each water connection by and at the sole expense of the
2 county, and it shall remain the property of the county. The rates shall be classified
3 within Frederick County in whatever manner the board deems advisable. However,
4 the classification shall be based upon the quantities of water used and shall be, insofar
5 as possible, uniform throughout Frederick County. If the board at any time does not
6 have meters available to install in all the properties in a given locality that are
7 connected to the system, then a flat rate shall be charged on properties in which
8 meters have not yet been installed. That rate shall be uniform in each system and
9 based upon the ready-to-serve charge and the amount of water used. Bills for water
10 and sewer charges shall be sent either quarterly or semiannually, as the board
11 determines, to each property served and shall be payable at the office of the board or
12 whatever other place the board designates. The charges shall be a lien upon the
13 property served and collectible as elsewhere provided. If any bill remains unpaid 30
14 days after the date it was sent, the board, after written notice left upon the premises
15 or mailed to the last known address of the owner, shall turn off the water from the
16 property in question. The water may not be turned on again until the bill has been
17 paid, including a [\$10] penalty **IN A REASONABLE AMOUNT TO BE ESTABLISHED BY**
18 **THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**

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