

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 96

(The President)(By Request - Department of Legislative
Services - Code Revision)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

This code revision bill revises, restates, and recodifies the laws of the State that relate to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. The bill transfers specified provisions of Article – 29 Washington Suburban Sanitary District to Article 28 – Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, adds a new division (Division II – Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission) to the Public Utilities Article, and adds specified provisions to Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill’s provisions are intended as nonsubstantive revisions, restatements, recodifications, and transfers of existing provisions and there is no fiscal impact.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The addition to the Public Utility Companies Article – renamed Public Utilities by the bill – to be known as “Division II. Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission,” consists of 14 titles that contain a large portion of the provisions of Article 29 of the Annotated Code. The 14 titles of Division II are as follows:

Title 16. Definitions

This title contains definitions that apply to all of Division II.

Title 17. Commission

Provisions on commission membership, the appointment and removal process for commission members, commissioner duties and responsibilities, and the general scope of commission duties and responsibilities are contained in this title.

Title 18. Personnel

This title contains provisions related to commission personnel, employment, compensation, etc.

Title 19. Ethics

This title contains provisions regarding ethics requirements for commission members and employees.

Title 20. Procurement

This title contains provisions detailing the procurement process to be used by the commission.

Title 21. Property and Land Use Matters

Provisions related to the acquisition and disposition of property, Prince George's County quick take, zoning and land use matters, and urban renewal projects are contained in this title.

Title 22. Bonds and Notes

This title contains provisions relating to general obligations bonds and notes and revenue bonds issued by the commission.

Title 23. Water, Sewers, and Drainage

Provisions on commission water, sewer, and drainage systems; subdivision lines and service connections; and the capital improvements program are contained in this title.

Title 24. Plumbing, Waterworks and Sewer Construction

This title contains provisions related to construction projects and sewer cleaning.

Title 25. Rates and Charges

This title contains provisions on general rates and charges, benefit charges, connection charges, a system development charge, and service rates.

Title 26. Water Systems in Anne Arundel County and Howard County

Provisions authorizing the commission to provide water to specified institutions and residents of Anne Arundel and Howard counties and the conditions under which this may be done are contained in this title.

Title 27. Highways and Streets

Provisions related to the powers and duties of the commission with regards to highways and streets are contained in this title.

Title 28. Miscellaneous Provisions

This title contains provisions related to an exemption from roadside tree planting or care fees, and the commission police force.

Title 29. Prohibited Acts; Penalties

This title contains provisions regarding general commission infractions and associated civil and criminal penalties.

Background: Division II of the Public Utilities Article, entitled “Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission,” and the transfer of other provisions resulting from the bill, is a product of the continuing revision of the Annotated Code of Maryland by the legal staff of the Office of Policy Analysis of the Department of Legislative Services. The first revised articles were enacted at the First Extraordinary Session of 1973. As of the date of the introduction in the General Assembly of Senate Bill 96, 32 revised articles have become law: Agriculture, Business Occupations and Professions, Business Regulation, Commercial Law, Corporations and Associations, Correctional Services, Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Economic Development, Education, Election Law, Environment, Estates and Trusts, Family Law, Financial Institutions, Health-General, Health Occupations, Housing and Community Development, Human Services, Insurance, Labor and Employment, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Public Utility Companies, Real Property, State Finance and Procurement, State Government, State Personnel and Pensions, Tax-General, Tax-Property, and Transportation.

In 2009, as part of the code revision process, one new title was added to the State Government Article, revising the laws relating to the Maryland Commission on Human Relations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 25, 2010
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