

# HOUSE BILL 1234

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HB 975/14 – ENV

5lr0443

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George’s County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: March 3, 2015

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Environment and Transportation, March 15, 2015

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2015

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Customer ~~Affordability~~**  
3 **Assistance Program**

4 **MC/PG 107–15**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing~~ requiring the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission  
6 to establish a Customer ~~Affordability~~ Assistance Program for a certain purpose on or  
7 before a certain date; requiring the Commission to establish certain income  
8 eligibility standards for certain ratepayers to receive assistance under the Program;  
9 requiring certain income eligibility standards to be applied uniformly throughout the  
10 Washington Suburban Sanitary District; providing for the funding of the Program;  
11 and generally relating to a Customer ~~Affordability~~ Assistance Program in the  
12 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Public Utilities  
15 Section 25–501  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Public Utilities**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 25-501.

2 (a) The Commission shall set a service rate that the Commission considers  
3 necessary to provide funds for:

4 (1) maintaining, repairing, and operating its water supply and sewer  
5 systems, including the overhead expense and depreciation allowance; and

6 (2) making any payments to the District of Columbia, as specified in this  
7 title.

8 (b) The service rate:

9 (1) shall be chargeable against all properties for a connection with any line  
10 owned by the Commission;

11 (2) shall be uniform throughout the sanitary district; and

12 (3) may be changed as necessary.

13 (c) (1) **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1,**  
14 **2015, THE COMMISSION ~~MAY SHALL~~ ESTABLISH A CUSTOMER ~~AFFORDABILITY~~**  
15 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH WATER AND**  
16 **SEWER BILLS TO ELIGIBLE RATEPAYERS.**

17 (2) (i) **THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH INCOME ELIGIBILITY**  
18 **STANDARDS FOR A RATEPAYER TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS**  
19 **SUBSECTION.**

20 (ii) **THE INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED**  
21 **UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE APPLIED UNIFORMLY THROUGHOUT THE**  
22 **SANITARY DISTRICT.**

23 (3) **THE CUSTOMER ~~AFFORDABILITY~~ ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHALL**  
24 **BE FUNDED FROM COMMISSION REVENUES.**

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 ~~October 1, 2015~~ June 1, 2015.