

HB0090/510610/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 90
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “with” in line 5 and substitute “authorizing certain fee revenue collected for the Bay Restoration Fund to be used for financial assistance to certain low-income homeowners for”; in line 9, strike “defining certain terms;”; after line 10, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Environment

Section 9-1605.2(h)(1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)”;

in line 13, strike “9-1108” and substitute “9-1605.2(h)(2)”; and after line 15, insert:

“BY adding to

Article - Environment

Section 9-1605.2(h)(7)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 19 on page 1 through line 14 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“9-1605.2.

(Over)

HB0090/510610/1 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 90
Page 2 of 4

(h) (1) With regard to the funds collected under subsection (b)(1)(i)1 of this section from users of an on-site sewage disposal system or holding tank that receive a water bill and subsection (b)(1)(i)2 and 3 of this section, beginning in fiscal year 2006, the Comptroller shall:

(i) Establish a separate account within the Bay Restoration Fund; and

(ii) Disburse the funds as provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) The Comptroller shall:

(i) Deposit 60% of the funds in the separate account to be used for:

1. Subject to paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) of this subsection, with priority first given to failing systems and holding tanks located in the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area and then to failing systems that the Department determines are a threat to public health or water quality, grants or loans for up to 100% of:

A. The costs attributable to upgrading an on-site sewage disposal system to the best available technology for the removal of nitrogen;

B. The cost difference between a conventional on-site sewage disposal system and a system that utilizes the best available technology for the removal of nitrogen;

C. The cost of repairing or replacing a failing on-site sewage disposal system with a system that uses the best available technology for nitrogen removal;

HB0090/510610/1 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 90
Page 3 of 4

D. The cost, up to the sum of the costs authorized under item B of this item for each individual system, of replacing multiple on-site sewage disposal systems located in the same community with a new community sewerage system that is owned by a local government and that meets enhanced nutrient removal standards; or

E. The cost, up to the sum of the costs authorized under item C of this item for each individual system, of connecting a property using an on-site sewage disposal system to an existing municipal wastewater facility that is achieving enhanced nutrient removal or biological nutrient removal level treatment, including payment of the principal, but not interest, of debt issued by a local government for such connection costs;

2. The reasonable costs of the Department, not to exceed 8% of the funds deposited into the separate account, to:

A. Implement an education, outreach, and upgrade program to advise owners of on-site sewage disposal systems and holding tanks on the proper maintenance of the systems and tanks and the availability of grants and loans under item 1 of this item;

B. Review and approve the design and construction of on-site sewage disposal system or holding tank upgrades;

C. Issue grants or loans as provided under item 1 of this item; and

D. Provide technical support for owners of upgraded on-site sewage disposal systems or holding tanks to operate and maintain the upgraded systems; [and]

(Over)

**HB0090/510610/1 Environment and Transportation Committee
Amendments to HB 90
Page 4 of 4**

3. A portion of the reasonable costs of a local public entity that has been delegated by the Department under § 1-301(b) of this article to administer and enforce environmental laws, not to exceed 10% of the funds deposited into the separate account, to implement regulations adopted by the Department for on-site sewage disposal systems that utilize the best available technology for the removal of nitrogen; and

4. SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LOW-INCOME HOMEOWNERS, AS DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, FOR UP TO 50% OF THE COST OF A 3-YEAR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR AN ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM THAT UTILIZES NITROGEN REMOVAL TECHNOLOGY; AND

(ii) Transfer 40% of the funds to the Maryland Agriculture Water Quality Cost Share Program in the Department of Agriculture in order to fund cover crop activities.

(7) THE DEPARTMENT OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHALL DETERMINE:

(i) WHETHER AN APPLICANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER PARAGRAPH (2)(I)4 OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND

(ii) THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED FOR EACH APPLICANT BASED ON THE AVERAGE COST OF A 3-YEAR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT PROVIDED BY VENDORS, AS DEFINED IN § 9-1108.1 OF THIS TITLE, IN THE APPLICANT'S AREA."