

HOUSE BILL 921

M3, L1

1lr2184

By: **Delegate Long**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County – Sewer Service Charge – Adjustment**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing, in Baltimore County, a property owner to request an
4 adjustment to a sewer service charge under certain circumstances and in a certain
5 manner; and generally relating to sewer service charges in Baltimore County.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Environment
8 Section 9–726
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Environment**

14 9–726.

15 (a) The political subdivision shall:

16 (1) Select a reasonable basis for imposing the sewer service charge; and

17 (2) Collect the sewer service charge once, twice, or four times a year.

18 (b) If any bill for sewer service remains unpaid after 60 days from the date the
19 bill was sent:

20 (1) The bill shall be collectible from the owner of the property served in the
21 same manner and subject to the same interest as taxes are collectible in the county in which
22 the water or sewerage system lies; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) The sewer service charges shall be a first lien on the property.

2 **(c) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.**

3 **(2) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (3) AND (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A**
4 **PROPERTY OWNER MAY REQUEST AN ADJUSTMENT TO A SEWER SERVICE CHARGE IF**
5 **THERE IS A WATER LEAK IN THE INTERIOR PLUMBING OF THE PROPERTY.**

6 **(3) IN MAKING A REQUEST FOR AN ADJUSTMENT UNDER THIS**
7 **SUBSECTION, A PROPERTY OWNER SHALL SUBMIT:**

8 **(i) A RECEIPT FROM A LICENSED PLUMBER ACKNOWLEDGING**
9 **A WATER LEAK IN THE INTERIOR PLUMBING OF THE PROPERTY; AND**

10 **(ii) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY BALTIMORE**
11 **COUNTY.**

12 **(4) A PROPERTY OWNER MAY NOT BE GRANTED AN ADJUSTMENT**
13 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MORE THAN ONCE EVERY 3 YEARS.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2021.