A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Sewer Service Charge – Adjustment

FOR the purpose of authorizing, in Baltimore County, a property owner to request an
adjustment to a sewer service charge in a certain manner if there is a leak in the
interior plumbing of the property; and generally relating to sewer service charges in
Baltimore County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Environment
Section 9–726
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Environment

9–726.

(a) The political subdivision shall:

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

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

(b) If any bill for sewer service remains unpaid after 60 days from the date the
bill was sent:
(1) The bill shall be collectible from the owner of the property served in the same manner and subject to the same interest as taxes are collectible in the county in which the water or sewerage system lies; and

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

(C) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.

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

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

   (I) A RECEIPT FROM A LICENSED PLUMBER ACKNOWLEDGING A WATER LEAK IN THE INTERIOR PLUMBING OF THE PROPERTY; AND

   (II) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY BALTIMORE COUNTY.

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.