

HOUSE BILL 1241

M3, C3

4lr3030

By: **Delegate Ruth**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Polyvinyl Chloride and Chlorinated Polyvinyl Water Piping –**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using certain polyvinyl chloride or
5 chlorinated polyvinyl chloride piping in the installation, repair, or replacement of a
6 water pipe or plumbing intended to dispense water for human consumption
7 beginning on a certain date; establishing the Water Pipe Safety Workgroup; and
8 generally relating to polyvinyl chloride or chlorinated polyvinyl chloride water
9 piping.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Environment

12 Section 6–1702

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Environment**

18 **6–1702.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PVC” MEANS A TYPE OF POLYVINYL CHLORIDE OR**
20 **CHLORINATED POLYVINYL CHLORIDE PLASTIC THAT IS USED IN THE**
21 **MANUFACTURING OF WATER PIPING.**

22 **(B) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, A PERSON MAY NOT USE PVC PIPING IN**
23 **THE INSTALLATION, REPAIR, OR REPLACEMENT OF A WATER PIPE OR PLUMBING**
24 **PART INTENDED TO DISPENSE WATER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, INCLUDING IN:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(1) A WATER MAIN LINE CARRYING WATER TO RESIDENTIAL AND**
 2 **COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES;**

3 **(2) A WATER SERVICE LINE CARRYING WATER TO RESIDENTIAL AND**
 4 **COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES;**

5 **(3) ANY WATER PIPE REPLACED UNDER THE FEDERAL LEAD PIPE**
 6 **REPLACEMENT PROGRAM UNDER 40 C.F.R. § 141.84; AND**

7 **(4) ANY NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

8 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
 9 **SECTION.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

11 (a) There is a Water Pipe Safety Workgroup.

12 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

13 (1) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

14 (2) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

15 (3) the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary's designee;

16 (4) the Chair of the State Board of Plumbing, or the Chair's designee; and

17 (5) a representative from a union of plumbers or pipefitters, designated by
 18 the Maryland State and DC AFL–CIO.

19 (c) The Secretary of the Environment shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.

20 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

21 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
 24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Workgroup shall:

26 (1) survey peer–reviewed, published literature on:

1 (i) the short- and long-term potential for chemicals of concern to
2 leach from materials used in the manufacture of pipes into the water carried through the
3 pipes; and

4 (ii) human and environmental health consequences of leached
5 chemicals in water, including the effects of cumulative long-term exposure;

6 (2) if determined to be necessary and subject to the availability of funding,
7 conduct further study on the potential for chemicals of concern to leach from materials used
8 in the manufacture of pipes into the water carried through the pipes;

9 (3) evaluate potential health and safety considerations for workers
10 involved in the installation or replacement of water pipes, with emphasis on the materials
11 used in the water pipes;

12 (4) develop recommendations for best practices concerning the materials
13 intended for use in water pipes; and

14 (5) develop recommendations for materials that may be subject to
15 limitations or restrictions through legislation, regulation, or alterations in the plumbing
16 code for their use in water pipes.

17 (g) (1) On or before December 31, 2024, and on or before December 31, 2025,
18 the Workgroup shall submit a report of its preliminary findings and recommendations to
19 the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the
20 General Assembly.

21 (2) On or before December 31, 2026, the Workgroup shall submit a final
22 report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §
23 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

24 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2027,
26 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
27 of no further force and effect.