

# HOUSE BILL 909

M3

5lr2470  
CF SB 732

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By: **Delegate Stein**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sewage Sludge Utilization Permits – Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances –**  
3 **Concentration Limits**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain sewage sludge utilization permits issued or renewed  
5 by the Department of the Environment to limit the concentration of certain per- and  
6 polyfluoroalkyl substances to certain levels; establishing requirements for the  
7 demonstration of compliance with the limits established under this Act; authorizing  
8 the Department to establish certain additional limits by regulations; and generally  
9 relating to sewage sludge utilization permits.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
11 Article – Environment  
12 Section 9–201(a), (k), (l), (n), and (t) and 9–231  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY adding to  
16 Article – Environment  
17 Section 9–231.1  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Environment**

23 9–201.

24 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (k) "Sewage" means:

2 (1) Any human or animal excretion or water-carried domestic waste; or

3 (2) A mixture of industrial waste and any of the things in item (1) of this  
4 subsection.

5 (l) "Sewage sludge" means any thickened liquid, suspension, settled solid, or  
6 dried residue that a sewage treatment plant extracts from sewage.

7 (n) "Sewage sludge utilization permit" means a permit, issued by the Department,  
8 to utilize sewage sludge.

9 (t) "Utilize sewage sludge" means to collect, handle, burn, store, treat, or  
10 transport sewage sludge to or from a sewage sludge generator or utilizer in this State, to  
11 apply it to land, or to dispose of it.

12 9-231.

13 (a) A person shall have a sewage sludge utilization permit before the person  
14 utilizes sewage sludge in this State.

15 (b) A person shall have a separate sewage sludge utilization permit for each site  
16 where the person utilizes sewage sludge.

17 **9-231.1.**

18 **(A) A SEWAGE SLUDGE UTILIZATION PERMIT ISSUED OR RENEWED BY THE**  
19 **DEPARTMENT FOR THE APPLICATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE TO AGRICULTURAL LAND**  
20 **SHALL LIMIT THE TOTAL CONCENTRATION OF PERFLUOROCTANE SULFONIC ACID**  
21 **(PFOS) OR PERFLUOROCTANOIC ACID (PFOA) TO THE LESSER OF:**

22 **(1) 1 MICROGRAM PER KILOGRAM;**

23 **(2) THE LEVEL ESTABLISHED IN HEALTH-BASED STANDARDS**  
24 **ADOPTED BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY; OR**

25 **(3) THE LEVEL ESTABLISHED IN REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**  
26 **DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.**

27 **(B) (1) COMPLIANCE WITH THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED UNDER**  
28 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE DEMONSTRATED BY AN ANALYSIS OF A**  
29 **SAMPLE OF THE ENTIRE QUANTITY OF SEWAGE SLUDGE TO BE LAND APPLIED,**  
30 **PERFORMED:**

1                   **(I) BY AN INDEPENDENT LABORATORY OR OTHER**  
2 **LABORATORY ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT;**

3                   **(II) USING STANDARDS, PROCEDURES, AND METHODS THAT**  
4 **ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT; AND**

5                   **(III) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**  
6 **SUBSECTION, NOT MORE THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE LAND**  
7 **APPLICATION.**

8                   **(2) A SAMPLE MAY BE ANALYZED MORE THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE THE**  
9 **DATE OF LAND APPLICATION IF THE SEWAGE SLUDGE IS:**

10                   **(I) HAULED DIRECTLY FROM THE SEWAGE SLUDGE**  
11 **GENERATOR TO THE FIELD; AND**

12                   **(II) NOT STORED OFF-SITE OR MIXED WITH ANY OTHER**  
13 **MATERIAL PRIOR TO LAND APPLICATION.**

14                   **(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ESTABLISH:**

15                   **(1) FOR PFOS AND PFOA, CONCENTRATION LIMITS THAT ARE MORE**  
16 **STRINGENT THAN THE LIMITS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (A)(1) AND (2) OF THIS**  
17 **SECTION; AND**

18                   **(2) CONCENTRATION LIMITS FOR PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL**  
19 **SUBSTANCES OR OTHER SUBSTANCES THAT ARE NOT LISTED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF**  
20 **THIS SECTION.**

21                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 2025.