

SENATE BILL 878

M3, M5

5lr2225

By: **Senators Hershey, Folden, and McKay**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Oil and Natural Gas – Hydraulic Fracturing – Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person to engage in hydraulic fracturing for certain
4 purposes in the State; and generally relating to hydraulic fracturing.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Environment
7 Section 14–107.1
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Environment**

13 14–107.1.

14 (a) In this section, “hydraulic fracturing” means a stimulation treatment
15 performed on oil and natural gas wells in low–permeability oil or natural gas reservoirs
16 through which specially engineered fluids are pumped at high pressure and rate into the
17 reservoir interval to be treated, causing fractures to open.

18 (b) A person may [not] engage in the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the
19 exploration or production of oil or natural gas in the State.

20 (C) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
21 **SECTION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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