SENATE BILL 966

M3, Q2 5lr0910

By: Howard County Senators

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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Howard County – Ambient Air Quality Control – Permit Applications, Permit Holders, and Property Tax Credit

4 Ho. Co. 6–25

- 5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to provide for an 6 informational meeting on certain applications for certain permits to engage in 7 activities located in Howard County; requiring Howard County, if a certain request 8 is made, to hold a public meeting before verifying that a certain proposal or source 9 satisfies zoning and land use requirements; requiring certain holders of a permit to 10 engage in certain activities in Howard County to provide annual emissions reports 11 to certain community associations; authorizing the governing body of Howard 12 County to grant, by law, a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on owner-occupied residential real property that is located within a certain 13 distance of a site for which certain permits or registrations have been issued; and 14 15 generally relating to ambient air quality control in Howard County.
- 16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 17 Article Environment
- 18 Section 1–603 and 2–404
- 19 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 20 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 21 BY adding to
- 22 Article Environment
- 23 Section 2–407
- 24 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 25 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 26 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 27 Article Tax Property

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



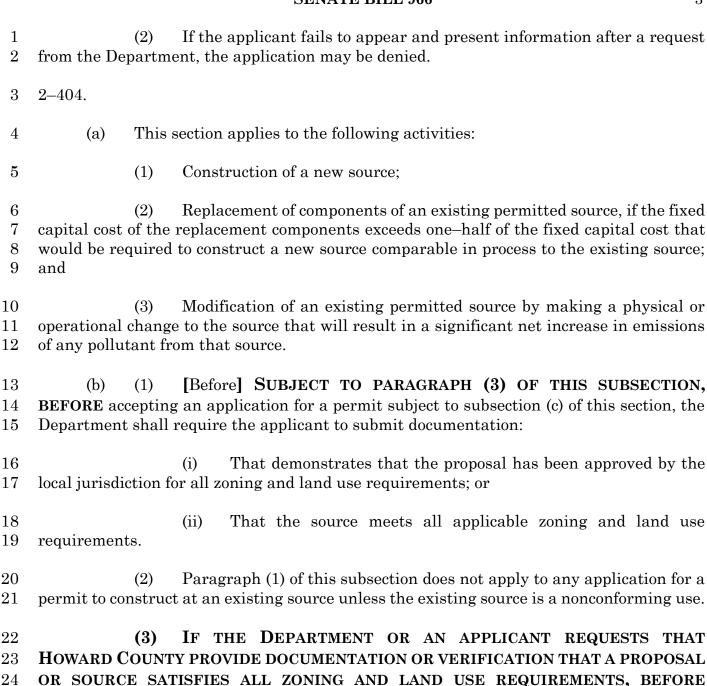
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1	Section 9–315(a)(5) and (6) and (b)
2	Annotated Code of Maryland (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
4 5 6 7 8	BY adding to Article – Tax – Property Section 9–315(a)(7) Annotated Code of Maryland (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
9	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND. That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
1	Article – Environment
2	1–603.
13	(a) The Department shall cause to be published notice of applications for permits.
14 15	(b) The Department shall assure that applications for permits shall be available to the public for inspection and copying.
16 17 18 19	(c) (1) (I) [Upon] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ON written request made within 10 working days after publication of a notice of application, or in its own discretion, the Department shall provide an opportunity for an informational meeting with respect to the application.
20 21	[(2)] (II) The informational meeting may be canceled if all persons who made timely written requests withdraw the requests prior to the meeting.
22 23 24 25	(2) (I) IF AN APPLICATION IS FOR AN AIR QUALITY CONTROL PERMIT UNDER § 2–404 OF THIS ARTICLE FOR AN ACTIVITY LOCATED IN HOWARD COUNTY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION.
26 27 28	(II) THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING MAY BE CANCELED IF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REQUEST THAT THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOT BE HELD.
29 30	(3) Unless the notice of application contained a notice of the informational meeting, the Department shall publish notice of the informational meeting.

The Department may require the applicant to attend an informational

meeting or public hearing and present information concerning the application.



28 (c) The Department shall comply with the provisions in subsection (d) of this section before issuing a permit for the activities listed in subsection (a) of this section at:

CITIZENS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY.

PROVIDING THE DOCUMENTATION OR VERIFICATION, THE COUNTY SHALL PUBLICIZE AND HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING WHERE INTERESTED PARTIES AND

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30 (1) Any source which is required to obtain a permit to operate under 31 regulations adopted under this subtitle;

- 1 (2) Any source which is subject to federal standards under 40 C.F.R. Part 2 61 (National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants) or 40 C.F.R. 52.21 3 (Prevention of Significant Deterioration); or
- 4 (3) Any source that will, after control, discharge 25 tons or more per year of a pollutant regulated under this title in the areas of Baltimore City designated by the United States Post Office as zip code numbers 21225, 21226, and 21230.
- 7 (d) (1) On receipt of an application for a permit subject to subsection (c) of this 8 section, the Department shall give notice immediately or require the applicant to give 9 notice immediately of the application to:
- 10 (i) The governing body of each county or municipal corporation in which any portion of the source is located or is proposed to be located;
- 12 (ii) The governing body of each county or municipal corporation within one mile of the property line of the source or the proposed location of the source;
- 14 (iii) Each member of the General Assembly representing any part of a county in which any portion of the source is located or proposed to be located; and
- 16 (iv) Each member of the General Assembly representing any part of 17 each county within one mile of the property line of the source or the proposed location of 18 the source.
- 19 (2) In addition to the requirements under paragraph (1) of this subsection, 20 before issuing a permit subject to subsection (c) of this section, the Department shall:
- 21 (i) Comply with the provisions of Title 1, Subtitle 6 of this article; 22 and
- 23 (ii) Conduct any public hearing required by Title 1, Subtitle 6 of this 24 article.
- 25 (3) In addition to the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, before issuing a permit to construct a source described in subsection (c)(3) of this section, the Department shall require at the expense of the applicant the preparation of an ambient air quality impact analysis regarding the proposed construction.
- 29 (e) Before issuing a permit for the activities listed in subsection (a) of this section 30 at any source which is subject to federal standards under 40 C.F.R. Part 60 (New Source 31 Performance Standards), the Department shall:
- 32 (1) Comply with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section; or
- 33 (2) (i) Electronically post a notice of an application for the permit on the Department's website in accordance with § 1–602(b)(1) of this article;

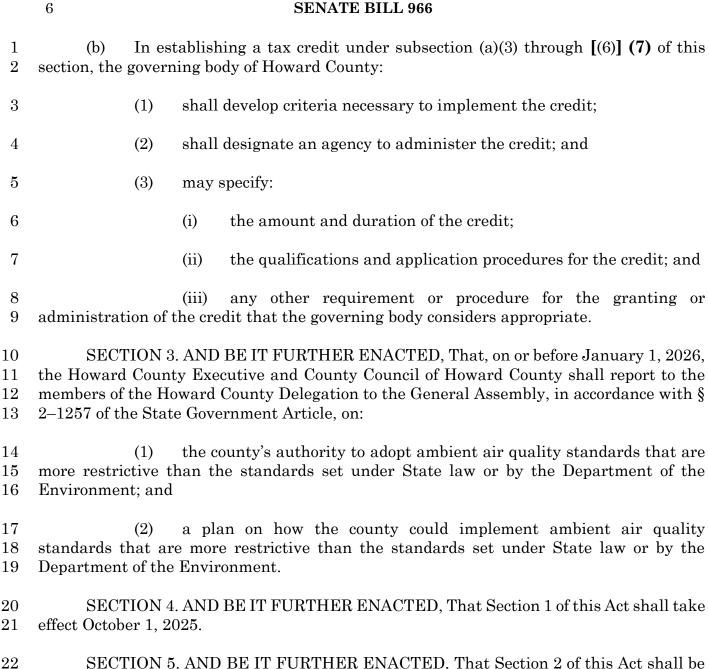
Give notice to the chief executive of any county or municipal 1 (ii) 2 corporation in which any portion of the source is located or is proposed to be located; and 3 Receive comments from the public on the permit application. (iii) 4 The provisions of this section do not apply to any permit to construct control equipment on an existing source or to any permit to operate. 5 2-407. 6 7 THIS SECTION APPLIES TO THE HOLDER OF A PERMIT AUTHORIZED (A) 8 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE THAT AUTHORIZES ACTIVITIES LOCATED IN HOWARD 9 COUNTY. 10 (B) IF THE HOLDER OF THE PERMIT IS ENGAGED IN AN ACTIVITY 11 AUTHORIZED BY THE PERMIT WITHIN 1 MILE OF A PROPERTY THAT IS ZONED FOR 12 RESIDENTIAL USE AND THE HOLDER OF THE PERMIT PREVIOUSLY OWNED THE 13 PROPERTY, THE HOLDER OF THE PERMIT SHALL PROVIDE ANNUAL EMISSIONS 14 REPORTS TO ANY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS THAT REPRESENT THE OWNERS OF 15 THE PROPERTY. 16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read 17 as follows: 18 Article - Tax - Property 19 9-315. 20 The governing body of Howard County may grant, by law, a property tax credit 21 under this section against the county property tax imposed on: 22 subject to subsection (b) of this section, owner-occupied residential real property that is jointly owned by an individual and the Howard County Housing 23 24Commission; [and] 25subject to subsection (b) of this section, residential or commercial real 26 property that has suffered damage caused by a natural disaster; AND 27 **SUBJECT** \mathbf{OF} **(7)** TO**SUBSECTION** (B) **THIS** SECTION, OWNER-OCCUPIED RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN 28

ONE-HALF MILE OF A SITE FOR WHICH A PERMIT OR REGISTRATION REQUIRED

UNDER § 2-401 OR § 2-404 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE HAS BEEN ISSUED.

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SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section

applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2025.

4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 2025.

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