

# SENATE BILL 209

M1  
SB 638/25 – EEE

(PRE-FILED)

6lr1039

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By: Senator McKay

Requested: October 1, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Natural Resources – Savage Highlands State Park – Hotel Rental**  
3 **Surcharge**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to assess and collect a  
5 certain hotel rental surcharge on rental units at Savage Highlands State Park and  
6 remit the proceeds to the Comptroller for distribution to Garrett County; requiring  
7 Garrett County to use and distribute the proceeds from the surcharge in a certain  
8 manner; and generally relating to Savage Highlands State Park in Garrett County.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 5–1016  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 **5–1016.**

18 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

19 **(1) ASSESS AND COLLECT AN 8% HOTEL RENTAL SURCHARGE ON**  
20 **RENTAL UNITS ON THE PROPERTY OF SAVAGE HIGHLANDS STATE PARK; AND**

21 **(2) REMIT THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SURCHARGE TO THE**  
22 **COMPTRROLLER FOR DISTRIBUTION TO GARRETT COUNTY.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1       **(B) (1) FROM THE PART OF THE SURCHARGE COLLECTED UNDER**  
2 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO A RATE OF 6%,**  
3 **GARRETT COUNTY SHALL DESIGNATE A PORTION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE**  
4 **COUNTY.**

5       **(2) THE PART OF THE SURCHARGE COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION**  
6 **(A) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RATE GREATER THAN 6%**  
7 **SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE COUNTY.**

8       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
9 1, 2026.