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UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 24

HOUSE BILL 24

M3 HB 840/23 - ENT & ECM	(PRE-FILED)	$^{4\mathrm{lr}0810}_{\mathrm{CF}~\mathrm{SB}~96}$

By: Delegate Boyce

Requested: October 3, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

- 1 AN ACT concerning
- 2 Environment Impact of Environmental Permits and State Agency Actions Department of the Environment Environmental Justice Evaluation of Environmental Permit Applications
- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to conduct a certain
- 4 evaluation regarding the impact of issuing an approval for certain environmental
- 5 permits; requiring the Department to provide opportunities for certain
- 6 communication with certain residents in a certain manner; requiring the
- 7 Department to deposit certain money in certain funds under certain circumstances:
- 8 altering certain reporting requirements for certain State agencies; and generally
- relating to the impact of actions on climate and environmental justice and equity perform a certain environmental justice evaluation of certain environmental permit applications under certain circumstances; authorizing the Department to take certain actions on certain environmental permit applications based on certain findings to address environmental justice concerns; requiring the Department to maintain a publicly accessible website, part of a website, or application that identifies pending permit applications in a certain manner; authorizing the Department to charge a certain fee to cover certain costs; and generally relating to environmental justice and environmental permits.
- 10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 11 Article Environment
- 12 Section 1-601(a), 1-701(a)(1), (5), (7), and (8), 1-702(b), 2-107(a), and 7-218 Section 1-601(a),
 - 1-601.1, and 1-701(a)(1) and (5)
- 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 16 Article Environment
- 17 Section 1-702(a), 2-107(b), 2-1305, and 7-219
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 20 BY adding to
- 21 Article Environment
- 22 Section 1-7A-01 through 1-7A-05 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7A. Impact
- 23 <u>of Environmental Permits on Climate and Environmental Equity</u> <u>Environmental Justice</u> Evaluation of Environmental Permit Applications "
- 24 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 25 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 26 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

2	UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 24
1	Article - Environment
2	Section 9-320(a)
3	Annotated Code of Maryland
4	(2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
5	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6	Article Environment
7 8	Section 9-320(b) Annotated Code of Maryland
9	(2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
10 11	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
12	Article - Environment
13	1-601.
14 15	(a) Permits issued by the Department under the following sections shall be issued in accordance with this subtitle:
16	(1) Air quality control permits to construct subject to § 2-404 of this article;
17 18	(2) Permits to install, materially alter, or materially extend landfill systems, incinerators for public use, or rubble landfills subject to § 9-209 of this article;
19 20	(3) Permits to discharge pollutants to waters of the State issued pursuant to \S 9-323 of this article;
21 22 23	(4) Permits to install, materially alter, or materially extend a structure used for storage or distribution of any type of sewage sludge issued, renewed, or amended pursuant to § 9-234.1 or § 9-238 of this article;
$\begin{array}{c} 24 \\ 25 \end{array}$	(5) Permits to own, operate, establish, or maintain a controlled hazardous substance facility issued pursuant to § 7-232 of this article;
26 27	(6) Permits to own, operate, or maintain a hazardous material facility issued pursuant to § 7-103 of this article;
28 29	(7) Permits to own, operate, establish, or maintain a low-level nuclear waste facility issued pursuant to § 7-233 of this article; and
30 31	(8) Potable reuse permits issued in accordance with \S 9-303.2 of this article.
	<u>1-601.1.</u>
	(a) A person applying for a permit listed under § 1-601(a) of this subtitle

- (a) A person applying for a permit listed under § 1-601(a) of this subtitle shall include in the permit application the EJ Score from the Maryland EJ tool for the census tract where the applicant is seeking a permit, unless the permit requires the applicant to use a tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- (b) On receiving an application for a permit listed under § 1-601(a) of this subtitle, the Department shall, in accordance with regulations adopted under this section, review the EJ Score for the census tract where the applicant is seeking a permit using the Maryland EJ tool to verify the applicant's information.
 - (c) The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

3 UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 24
1 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
2 (5) "Environmental justice" means equal protection from environmental
3 and public health hazards for all people regardless of race, income, culture, and social
4 status.

5 (7) "Overburdened community" means any census tract for which three or
6 more of the following environmental health indicators are above the 75th percentile

5 6 7	(7) more of the fol statewide:		erburdened community" means any consus tract for which three or environmental health indicators are above the 75th percentile
8		(i)	Particulate matter (PM) 2.5;
9		(ii)	Ozone;
10		(iii)	National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) diesel PM;
11		(iv)	NATA cancer risk;
12		(v)	NATA respiratory hazard index;
13		(vi)	Traffic proximity;
14		(vii)	Lead paint indicator;
15		(viii)	National Priorities List Superfund site proximity;
16		(ix)	Risk Management Plan facility proximity;
17		(x)	Hazardous waste proximity;
18		(xi)	Wastewater discharge indicator;
19		(xii)	Proximity to a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO);
20		(xiii)	Percent of the population lacking broadband coverage;
21		(xiv)	Asthma emergency room discharges;
22		(xv)	Myocardial infarction discharges;
23		(xvi)	Low birth weight infants;
24		(xvii)	Proximity to emitting power plants;
25		(xviii)	Proximity to a Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) facility;
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1	(xx) Proximity to mining operations; and
2	(xxi) Proximity to a hazardous waste landfill.
3 4	(8) "Underserved community" means any census tract in which, according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau Survey:
5	(i) At least 25% of the residents qualify as low-income;
6	(ii) At least 50% of the residents identify as nonwhite; or
7	(iii) At least 15% of the residents have limited English preficiency.
8	1-702.
9	(a) On or before December 31, [2023] 2024, the Department, in consultation with
10	the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities, shall:
11	(1) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, adopt a methodology for
12	identifying communities disproportionately affected by climate impacts;
14	taching ing communicies disproportionately directed by climate impacts,
13	(2) Develop specific strategies to address geographical impact concerns,
14	reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and co-pollutants, and build climate equity and
15	resilience within communities disproportionately affected by climate impacts;
10	Toolholloo within communities disproportionately allocted by climate impacts,
16	(3) Set appropriate goals for the percentage of State funding for greenhouse
17	cas emission reduction measures that should be used for the benefit of disprepartionately
18	affected communities: and
10	arrected communities, and
19	(4) Report to the Maryland Commission on Climate Change and, in
20	accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the
21	policies and programs developed under this subsection.
41	policies and programs developed under time subsection.
22	(b) In evaluating methodologies under subsection (a)(1) of this section, the
23	Department shall, at a minimum, include:
20	Department shan, at a miniman, metado.
24	(1) Underserved communities:
4-1	(1) Ondologi vod communicios,
25	(2) Overburdened communities; and
20	(2) Overburdened communication, diffe
26	(3) Areas that are vulnerable to climate impacts, such as fleeding, storm
27	surges, and urban heat island effects, due to low levels of tree coverage, high levels of
28	impervious surfaces, or other factors.
40	importions surfaces, or other monore.
29	SUBTITLE 7A. IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS ON CLIMATE AND
30	Environmental Equity Environmental Justice Evaluation of
	ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS.

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- 1	- 1	-1	A-	-()	1.

- IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS 2 (A)
- 3 INDICATED.
- "APPLICANT" MEANS A PERSON APPLYING FOR A PERMIT LISTED 4 (B)
- UNDER § 1-601(A) OF THIS TITLE.
- "ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-701 OF 6 (C)
- 7 THIS TITLE.
- (D) "Overburdened community" has the meaning stated in § 1-701 8
- OF THIS TITLE. 9
- 10 (E) "PERMIT" MEANS A PERMIT LISTED UNDER § 1-601(A) OF THIS TITLE.
- "Underserved community" has the meaning stated in § 1-701 of
- 12 THIS TITLE.
- 13 **1-7A-02.**
 - (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A PERMIT APPLICATION RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2024.
- (1) (B) IF, AFTER REVIEWING AN EJ SCORE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 14
- 15 1-601.1(B) OF THIS TITLE, THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT ISSUING AN
- 16 APPROVAL FOR A NEW PERMIT MAY IMPACT AN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY OR
- 17 AN OVERBURDENED COMMUNITY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT A CLIMATE
- 18 AND ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY EVALUATION OF THE PERMIT THE EJ SCORE IS ABOVE THE 75TH PERCENTILE STATEWIDE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PERFORM AN ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE EVALUATION OF THE

PERMIT APPLICATION.

- 19 THE CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY EVALUATION
- 20 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF:
- (I) EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE DATA REGARDING 21
- 22 THE AFFECTED COMMUNITY, INCLUDING MONITORING, MODELING, OR ANY OTHER
- DATA DEEMED APPROPRIATE; 23
- (II) 24 THE APPLICANT FACILITY'S COMPLIANCE RECORD; AND
- 25 POTENTIAL METHODS TO MINIMIZE OR MITICATE POTENTIAL
- 26 ADVERSE EFFECTS IN THE AFFECTED COMMUNITY.
- 27 IN ADDITION TO THE EVALUATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF
- 28 THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT, IN COORDINATION WITH THE MARYLAND
- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, MAY CONDUCT A HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE

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- 2 (C) (1) IN CONDUCTING A CLIMATE AND EQUITY EVALUATION OR A HEALTH
- 3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY
- 1 CONSIDER CUMULATIVE IMPACTS, AS DEFINED IN THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
- 5 PROTECTION AGENCY'S REPORT ON CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RESEARCH:
- 6 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EPA'S OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.
- 7 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPLETE A CLIMATE AND EQUITY
- 8 EVALUATION AND, IF APPLICABLE, A HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITHIN 60 DAYS
- 9 AFTER MAKING A DETERMINATION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION THAT
- 10 ISSUING AN APPROVAL FOR A NEW PERMIT MAY IMPACT AN UNDERSERVED
- 11 COMMUNITY OR AN OVERBURDENED COMMUNITY.
 - (C) BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF AN EVALUATION PERFORMED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY:
 - (1) FOR A PERMIT FOR A NEW POLLUTION SOURCE OR A PERMIT THAT
 ALLOWS FOR AN INCREASE IN POLLUTION FROM AN EXISTING POLLUTION SOURCE, DENY THE
 PERMIT OR IMPOSE CONDITIONS IN THE PERMIT TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
 CONCERNS; AND
 - (2) FOR THE RENEWAL OF AN EXISTING PERMIT THAT WOULD NOT RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN POLLUTION FROM AN EXISTING POLLUTION SOURCE, IMPOSE CONDITIONS IN THE RENEWAL PERMIT TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONCERNS.
- 12 **1-7A-03.**
- 13 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REGULARLY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR
- 14 RESIDENTS OF THE STATE TO OPT IN TO TEXT, PHONE, E MAIL, OR REGULAR MAIL
- 15 NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING ANY FACILITY WITH A PENDING OR FINAL PERMIT
- 16 APPROVAL IN OR ADJACENT TO THE RESIDENT'S CENSUS TRACT MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE,
 PART OF A WEBSITE, OR APPLICATION THAT IDENTIFIES PENDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS WITH SPECIFIC CENSUS
 TRACTS.
- 17 (B) (1) IF AN APPLICANT IS APPLYING FOR MORE THAN ONE PERMIT FOR
- 18 THE SAME FACILITY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS
- 19 UNDER § 1-7A-02 OF THIS SUBTITLE ONLY ONCE UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT
- 20 DETERMINES THAT MORE THAN ONE EVALUATION IS NECESSARY DUE TO THE
- 21 COMPLEXITY OF THE APPLICATIONS.
- 22 (2) PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED
- 23 TO LIMIT THE AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD OR REQUIRE ADDITIONAL
- 24 PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR A PERMIT.
- 25 (C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DENY OR ALTER A DECISION OR AMEND THE
- 26 CONDITIONS UNDER A PENDING PERMIT BASED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S FINDINGS
- 27 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.
- 28 1-7A-04.
- 29 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IN ADDITION TO ANY
- 30 OTHER FEE AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR REGULATION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY CHARGE
- 31 A REASONABLE FEE TO COVER THE DEPARTMENT'S COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE
- 32 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING COSTS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL
- 33 ASSISTANCE TO PERMIT APPLICANTS AND RESIDENTS OF RELEVANT CENSUS
- 34 TRACTS AS NEEDED TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBTITLE.

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1	(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEPOSIT ANY MONEY FROM FEES THAT
	REMAINS AFTER COVERING COSTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
	SECTION INTO:
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4	(1) THE MARYLAND CLEAN WATER FUND;
•	(1) 1111 1111/11111 011111 (1111111)
5	(2) THE MARYLAND CLEAN AIR FUND; OR
6	(3) THE STATE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE CONTROL FUND
	IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER FEE AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR REGULATION, THE
	DEPARTMENT MAY CHARGE A REASONABLE FEE TO COVER THE DEPARTMENT'S COSTS
	ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING THE COSTS TO
	PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PERMIT APPLICANTS AND RESIDENTS OF RELEVANT
	CENSUS TRACTS AS NEEDED TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBTITLE.
7	1-7A-05.
8	THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
9	SUBTITLE.
10	2-107.
11	(a) There is a Maryland Clean Air Fund.
12	(b) Except as provided in § 2-1002(g) of this title, all application fees,
	permit fees, renewal fees, and funds collected by the Department under this title, Title 6,
	Subtitle 4 of this article, or received from the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund under § 9-20B-05(g)(3)(iii) of the State Government Article, including any civil or
	administrative penalty or any fine imposed by a court under these provisions, shall be paid
	into the Maryland Clean Air Fund.
. ,	The the stary and clean the fana.
18	(2) THE MARYLAND CLEAN AIR FUND MAY RECEIVE MONEY IN
_	ACCORDANCE WITH § 1.7A 04(B) OF THIS ARTICLE.
10	Recombined with \$1 vit vi(b) of time invitedia.
20	2 1305.
21	(a) (1) Each State agency shall review its planning, regulatory, and fiscal
22	programs to identify and recommend actions to more fully integrate the consideration of
23	Maryland's greenhouse gas reduction goal and the impacts of climate change.
24	(2) The review shall include the consideration of:
25	(i) Sea level rise;
26	(ii) Storm gurges and flooding
26	(ii) Storm surges and flooding;
27	(iii) Increased precipitation and temperature; [and]
_ ((111) Increased precipitation and temperature, junaj

1	(V) WHETHER AGENCY DECISIONS CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL
2	DETERIORATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH OR INCREASES IN POLLUTION ASSOCIATED
3	WITH HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BURDENS FOR UNDERSERVED AND
4	OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES:
5	(b) Each State agency shall identify and recommend specific policy, planning,
6	regulatory, and fiscal changes to existing programs that do not currently support the State's
7	greenhouse gas reduction efforts or address climate change.
8	(e) (1) [The] ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE following Stat
9	agencies shall report fannually on the status of programs that support the State's
10	greenhouse gas reduction efforts or address climate change TO THE GENERAL
11	ASSEMBLY, in accordance with § 2 1257 of the State Government Article. AND to the
12	Commission and the Governor:
13	(i) The Department;
14	(ii) The Department of Agriculture;
15	(iii) The Department of General Services;
10	(iii) The Department of General Bervices,
16	(iv) The Department of Housing and Community Development;
17	(v) The Department of Natural Resources;
10	
18	(vi) The Department of Planning;
19	(vii) The Department of Transportation;
10	(111) The Beparement of Transportation,
20	(viii) The Maryland Energy Administration;
21	(ix) The Maryland Insurance Administration;
00	() M D 11: 0 : 0 : 1
22	(x) The Public Service Commission; and
23	(xi) The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.
_0	(m) The Only of Maryland Consol for Environmental Solonoc.
24	(2) The report required [in] UNDER paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
25	include THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION RELATING TO THE WORK OF EACH STATE
26	AGENCY FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 12 MONTH PERIOD:
27	(i) Program descriptions and objectives;
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28	(ii) Implementation milestones, whether or not they have been met;

9	UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 24
1	(iii) Enhancement opportunities:
_	
2	(iv) Funding;
3	$\frac{\langle v \rangle}{\langle v \rangle}$ Challenges;
4	(vi) Estimated greenhouse gas emissions reductions, by program, for
5	the prior calendar year: [and]
	one prior carefular year, [ana]
6	(vii) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS OR IMPEDIMENTS TO
7	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE; AND
8	(VIII) Any other information that the agency considers relevant.
9	(3) EACH STATE AGENCY SHALL MAKE THE REPORT REQUIRED
10	UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON ITS
11	WEBSITE.
12	(d) Each State agency, when conducting long-term planning, developing policy,
13	and drafting regulations, shall take into consideration:
14	(1) The likely elimate impact of the agency's decisions relative to
15	Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; and
1.0	
16	(2) The likely impact of the agency's decisions on disproportionately
17 18	affected communities identified according to the methodology adopted by the Department under § 1-702 of this article.
10	ander y 1-102 or time article.
19	7.218.
10	
20	There is a State Hazardous Substance Control Fund.
21	7-210.
22	(A) All application and permit fees, renewal fees, transporting vehicle certification
23	fees, and all other funds collected by the Department under this subtitle, including any civil
24	or administrative penalty or any fine imposed by a court under the provisions of this
25	subtitle, shall be paid into the State Hazardous Substance Control Fund.
0.0	(n) The Champ Hagan police Chipomanica Common Error and a service common Er
26	(B) THE STATE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE CONTROL FUND MAY RECEIVE
27	MONEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-7A-04(B) OF THIS ARTICLE.
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29	(a) There is a Maryland Clean Water Fund.
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10	UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 24
1	(b) (1) The following payments shall be made into the Maryland Clean Water
2	Fund:
3	[(1)] (1) All application foce, permit foce, renewal foce, and funds
4	collected by the Department under this subtitle, including any civil or administrative
5	penalty or any fine imposed by a court under the provisions of this subtitle;
	r and a real real real real real real real re
6	(12) (II) Any civil penalty or any fine imposed by a court under the
7	provisions of Title 5, Subtitle 5 of this article relating to water appropriation and use;
•	re
8	(3) (III) Any civil or administrative penalty or any fine imposed by a cour
9	under the provisions of Title 4, Subtitle 1 of this article;
· ·	and the provisions of this i, substite to this article,
10	(1) (IV) Any fees or funds that the Department collects under Subtitle 2,
11	Part III of this title and §§ 9-269 and 9-270 of this title and any civil or administrative
12	penalty or fine imposed by a court under the provisions of Subtitle 2 of this title; and
	F,
13	[(5)] (V) Any fees or funds that the Department collects under Subtitle 24
14	of this title and any civil or administrative penalty or fine imposed by a court under the
15	provisions of Subtitle 24 of this title.
10	
16	(2) THE MARYLAND CLEAN WATER FUND MAY RECEIVE MONEY IN
17	ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-7A-04(B) OF THIS ARTICLE.
11	TO COMPLETE WITH ST VIEW (D) OF THIS THE HOUSE,
18	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19	October 1, 2024.
10	0000001 1, =0=1.