

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George’s County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Moratorium and Study on**
3 **Advanced Metering Infrastructure**

4 **MC/PG 101–19**

5 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission from
6 implementing certain advanced metering infrastructure; requiring the Department
7 of Legislative Services to report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date;
8 defining certain terms; providing for the termination of a certain provision of this
9 Act; and generally relating to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and
10 public water utility services.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Public Utilities
13 Section 16–101(a) and (b)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Public Utilities
18 Section 28–102
19 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

4 **Article – Public Utilities**

5 16–101.

6 (a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.

7 (b) “Commission” means the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

8 **28–102.**

9 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
10 **INDICATED.**

11 **(2) “ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE” MEANS SMART**
12 **TECHNOLOGY THAT IS COMPOSED OF REMOTE TRANSMITTERS, TWO-WAY**
13 **COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A UTILITY CUSTOMER’S PREMISES AND A UTILITY**
14 **COMPANY THROUGH A WIRELESS NETWORK, AND DATA MANAGEMENT.**

15 **(3) “AUTOMATIC METER READING” MEANS THE AUTOMATIC**
16 **COLLECTION OF DATA FROM A METER DEVICE AND THE TRANSFERRING OF THAT**
17 **DATA TO A CENTRAL DATABASE.**

18 **(B) THE COMMISSION MAY NOT IMPLEMENT ADVANCED METERING**
19 **INFRASTRUCTURE.**

20 **(C) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS THE COMMISSION FROM**
21 **IMPLEMENTING AUTOMATIC METER READING.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

23 (a) The Department of Legislative Services shall conduct a study comparing the
24 costs and benefits of implementing advanced metering infrastructure or automatic meter
25 reading by public water utilities.

1 (b) The study shall include:

2 (1) a summary of available reports on the topic; and

3 (2) a survey of the metering practices and recent investments of public
4 water utilities in the Washington, D.C. region, Maryland, and comparable large public
5 water utilities in the United States.

6 (c) On or before September 30, 2019, the Department of Legislative Services shall
7 report the findings of the study to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of
8 the State Government Article.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
10 1, 2019. Section 1 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of
11 May 31, 2024, Section 1 of this Act, with no further action required by the General
12 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.