

# HOUSE BILL 333

M3, L1  
HB 921/21 – ENT

2lr1583

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By: **Delegate Long**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County – Sewer Service Charge – Adjustment**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing, in Baltimore County, a property owner to request an  
4 adjustment to a sewer service charge in a certain manner if there is a leak in the  
5 interior plumbing of the property; and generally relating to sewer service charges in  
6 Baltimore County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Environment  
9 Section 9–726  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Environment**

15 9–726.

16 (a) The political subdivision shall:

17 (1) Select a reasonable basis for imposing the sewer service charge; and

18 (2) Collect the sewer service charge once, twice, or four times a year.

19 (b) If any bill for sewer service remains unpaid after 60 days from the date the  
20 bill was sent:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (1)     The bill shall be collectible from the owner of the property served in the  
2 same manner and subject to the same interest as taxes are collectible in the county in which  
3 the water or sewerage system lies; and

4           (2)     The sewer service charges shall be a first lien on the property.

5           **(C)   (1)     THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.**

6           **(2)     SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (3) AND (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A**  
7 **PROPERTY OWNER MAY REQUEST AN ADJUSTMENT TO A SEWER SERVICE CHARGE IF**  
8 **THERE IS A WATER LEAK IN THE INTERIOR PLUMBING OF THE PROPERTY.**

9           **(3)     IN MAKING A REQUEST FOR AN ADJUSTMENT UNDER THIS**  
10 **SUBSECTION, A PROPERTY OWNER SHALL SUBMIT:**

11                   **(I)     A RECEIPT FROM A LICENSED PLUMBER ACKNOWLEDGING**  
12 **A WATER LEAK IN THE INTERIOR PLUMBING OF THE PROPERTY; AND**

13                   **(II)    ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY BALTIMORE**  
14 **COUNTY.**

15           **(4)     A PROPERTY OWNER MAY NOT BE GRANTED AN ADJUSTMENT**  
16 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MORE THAN ONCE EVERY 3 YEARS.**

17           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2022.