

# SENATE BILL 135

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4lr1223

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senators Ellis and McKay**

Requested: October 27, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 13, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment**  
3 **Facility – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport  
5 Wastewater Treatment Facility; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study  
6 Funding for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Workgroup to Study Funding for the Westernport Wastewater  
10 Treatment Facility.

11 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

12 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
13 the Senate;

14 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
15 the House;

16 (3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

17 (4) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 (5) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;
- 2 (6) the Mayor of Westernport;
- 3 (7) one member from the Board of County Commissioners for Allegany  
4 County;
- 5 (8) the Director of Public Works for Allegany County;
- 6 (9) the Chair of the Upper Potomac River Commission; and
- 7 (10) a member of the Upper Potomac River Commission who is not the  
8 Chair.

9 (c) The Chair of the Upper Potomac River Commission shall designate the chair  
10 of the Workgroup.

11 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

12 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

13 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

14 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
15 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

16 (f) The Workgroup shall:

17 (1) identify and study the existing funding sources that support the  
18 Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility;

19 (2) study whether increased funding could enhance operations at the  
20 Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility;

21 (3) study the funding sources of comparable wastewater treatment  
22 facilities in the mid-Atlantic region;

23 (4) study available and potential federal, State, and local funding sources  
24 for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility; and

25 (5) make recommendations regarding:

26 (i) whether additional funding could improve the operations of the  
27 Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility; and

28 (ii) the existing and prospective federal, State, and local funding

1 sources for the Westernport Wastewater Treatment Facility.

2 (g) On or before December 1, 2024, the Workgroup shall report its findings and  
3 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
4 Government Article, the General Assembly.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
6 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2025, this  
7 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no  
8 further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.