



2021 General Assembly Session

Bills of Interest

As of January 31, 2021

SENATE BILLS

SB 119 / HB 507

Senators Guzzone (Dist. 13) and Elfreth (Dist. 30)

CLEAN WATER COMMERCE ACT OF 2021

Establishing the Clean Water Commerce Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the Department of the Environment to transfer \$20,000,000 from the Bay Restoration Fund to the Clean Water Commerce Fund for certain purposes beginning in fiscal year 2022; altering the authorized uses of the Bay Restoration Fund to include certain transfers to the Clean Water Commerce Fund; repealing a certain authorization to use funds in the Bay Restoration Fund for costs associated with certain nutrient or sediment load reductions; etc.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

Effective Date: June 1, 2021

EN, SF, Chapter 366 of the Acts of 2017, and Chapter 367 of the Acts of 2017, Various Sections - amended, added, and repealed

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Bill Hearing: Thursday, 1/28, 11:00 am (view bill hearing [here](#))

Position:

SB 330 / HB 469

Senator West (Dist. 42)

STATE-FUNDED CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR RENOVATION PROJECTS – SOLAR PANELS – REQUIREMENT

Requiring the State, for certain construction projects and major renovation projects proposed after December 31, 2021, to require that the project be designed, engineered, and constructed in a manner that allows the roof to withstand the weight of solar panels; requiring certain construction projects and major renovation projects to include the installation of the maximum number of solar panels for which the project was designed; requiring the Maryland Green Building Council to provide certain recommendations; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

SF, § 3-602.2 - added and § 4-809(f) - amended

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Bill Hearing: Thursday, 1/21, 11:00 am

Position: recommend **Opposition**



SB 417 / HB 777

Delegate Brooks (Dist. 10)

POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM – REVIEW OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY – ALTERATIONS

Altering the circumstances under which the Public Service Commission must notify the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of the Environment about an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity associated with power plant construction; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to complete an independent environmental and socioeconomic project assessment report within 6 months after the Commission determines the application to be complete; etc.

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Bill Hearing: Wednesday, February 10, 1:00 pm
Position:

SB 540 / HB 427

Senators Hershey (Dist. 36) and Gallion (Dist. 35)

FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT – AUTHORITY OF STATE

Prohibiting the State from entering into an agreement that waives the State's authority under § 401 of the federal Clean Water Act as part of exercising the State's authority and carrying out the State's duties under the federal Clean Water Act and State law, including the State's authority and duties related to the federal relicensing of the Conowingo Dam.

EMERGENCY BILL – CONTINGENT

EN, § 9-353 - added

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Bill Hearing: Wednesday, 2/10 at 1:00 pm

Position: **SUPPORT**

(as a means of leverage for State of Maryland re Conowingo Factor)



HOUSE BILLS

[HB 427](#) / SB 540

Delegate Jacobs (Dist. 36)

FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT – AUTHORITY OF STATE

Prohibiting the State from entering into an agreement that waives the State's authority under § 401 of the federal Clean Water Act as part of exercising the State's authority and carrying out the State's duties under the federal Clean Water Act and State law, including the State's authority and duties related to the federal relicensing of the Conowingo Dam.

EMERGENCY BILL – CONTINGENT

EN, § 9-353 - added

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Bill Hearing: Wednesday, 2/3 at 1:30 pm

Position: **SUPPORT** (as a means of leverage for State of Maryland re Conowingo Factor)

[HB 469](#) / SB 330

Delegate Forbes (Dist. 42A)

STATE-FUNDED CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR RENOVATION PROJECTS – SOLAR PANELS – REQUIREMENT

Requiring the State, for certain construction projects and major renovation projects proposed after December 31, 2021, to require that the project be designed, engineered, and constructed in a manner that allows the roof to withstand the weight of solar panels; requiring certain construction projects and major renovation projects to include the installation of the maximum number of solar panels for which the project was designed; requiring the Maryland Green Building Council to provide certain recommendations; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

SF, § 3-602.2 - added and § 4-809(f) - amended

Committee: Health and Government Operations and Appropriations

Bill Hearing: Thursday, 2/17, 1:30 pm

Position: recommend **Opposition**



HB 507 / SB 119

Delegate Stein (Dist. 11)

CLEAN WATER COMMERCE ACT OF 2021

Establishing the Clean Water Commerce Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the Department of the Environment to transfer \$20,000,000 from the Bay Restoration Fund to the Clean Water Commerce Fund for certain purposes beginning in fiscal year 2022; altering the authorized uses of the Bay Restoration Fund to include certain transfers to the Clean Water Commerce Fund; repealing a certain authorization to use funds in the Bay Restoration Fund for costs associated with certain nutrient or sediment load reductions; etc.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

Effective Date: June 1, 2021

EN, SF, Chapter 366 of the Acts of 2017, and Chapter 367 of the Acts of 2017, Various Sections
- amended, added, and repealed

Committee: Environment and Transportation and Appropriations

Bill Hearing: Wednesday, 2/10 at 1:30 pm

Position:

HB 777 / SB 417

Delegate Brooks (Dist. 10)

**POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM – REVIEW OF APPLICATION FOR
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY –
ALTERATIONS**

Altering the circumstances under which the Public Service Commission must notify the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of the Environment about an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity associated with power plant construction; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to complete an independent environmental and socioeconomic project assessment report within 6 months after the Commission determines the application to be complete; etc.

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Committee: Economic Matters

Bill Hearing:

Position: