

Approved May 27, 1980.

CHAPTER 710

(Senate Bill 478)

AN ACT concerning

Occupational Safety - Work in Manholes

FOR the purpose of safeguarding employees who are required to work in manholes from the hazards of this type of work; requiring an employee to be available ~~in the immediate vicinity of a manhole~~ at certain times; and providing exceptions.

BY adding to

Article 89 - Division of Labor and Industry
Section 49C
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 89 - Division of Labor and Industry

49C.

WHILE HAZARDOUS WORK IS BEING PERFORMED IN A MANHOLE, AN EMPLOYEE SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE ~~IN--THE--IMMEDIATE VICINITY~~ TO RENDER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AS MAY BE REQUIRED. THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE:

(1) THE EMPLOYEE ~~IN--THE--IMMEDIATE-VICINITY~~ FROM OCCASIONALLY ENTERING A MANHOLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, OTHER THAN EMERGENCY; OR

(2) A QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE, WORKING ALONE, FROM ENTERING FOR BRIEF PERIODS OF TIME A MANHOLE WHERE CABLES OR EQUIPMENT ARE IN SERVICE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSPECTION, HOUSEKEEPING, TAKING READINGS, OR SIMILAR OTHER WORK IF THE WORK CAN BE PERFORMED SAFELY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Approved May 27, 1980.
