

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Maryland Department of the Environment to request that the United States Environmental Protection Agency take prompt action to waive federal requirements that certain reformulated gasoline be sold in the State;~~ requiring the Department of the Environment, on or before a certain date, to develop and submit, to certain legislative committees, ~~a plan regarding the phasing out of~~ a report on the viability of alternatives to the use of methyl tertiary butyl ether in gasoline sold in the State; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the use of methyl tertiary butyl ether in gasoline sold in the State.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Maryland Department of the Environment ~~shall:~~

(a) ~~Request that the United States Environmental Protection Agency take prompt action to waive federal requirements that reformulated gasoline, containing a minimum oxygen content in accordance with the provisions of the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act, be sold in the State; and~~

(b) ~~On~~ shall, on or before December 1, ~~2006~~ 2005, develop and submit, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, a ~~plan report~~ report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee ~~regarding the phasing out of~~ on the viability of alternatives to the use of methyl tertiary butyl ether in gasoline sold in the State, including:

(1) The availability of other oxygenates;

(2) The economic implications of using other oxygenates; and

(3) The environmental impacts on the State of using other oxygenates;

(4) The effectiveness and efficiency of the use of bacteria and other microorganisms to clean both isolated and widespread incidences of oil and gasoline contamination of soil and groundwater, a process known as "bioremediation"; and

(5) The short and long term effectiveness of bioremediation compared to other methods of cleaning soil and groundwater contamination.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ July 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of ~~1 year and 3 6~~ 6 months and, at the end of December 31, ~~2006~~ 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 26, 2005.