

ready-to-serve charge and the amount of water used. Bills for water and sewer charges shall be sent quarterly or semiannually as the board may determine to each property served and shall be payable at the office of the board or such other place as the board may designate. Such charges shall be a lien upon the property served and collectible as elsewhere herein provided. If any bill remains unpaid after thirty (30) days from date of sending, the board, after written notice left upon the premises or mailed to the last known address of the owner, shall turn off the water from the property in question; and the water shall not be turned on again until the bill has been paid, including a penalty of ten dollars \$10.00.

(2) A charge for the upkeep of water and sewer systems against all properties benefited by ANY such [drainage] system or having a connection with any water main or sewer under its operation or ownership. The charge for the upkeep of the water and sewer system, if any, shall be made upon such reasonable basis as the board may determine and shall be collected annually in the same manner as are front foot benefit assessments against all property BENEFITED BY OR having a connection [within] WITH a water main or sewer under the operation or ownership of the county and shall be a lien against the property. Such charges shall be based upon such classifications as the board from time to time may establish and shall be uniform throughout each system within each classification; provided, however, that no charge for the upkeep of water and sewer systems shall be made against any property in any year for which such property is currently subject to a front foot benefit assessment as elsewhere in this chapter provided.

(3) BEFORE ANY SEWER OR WATER SYSTEM IS ADDED TO A CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM FOR EITHER SEWER OR WATER RATES, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY SHALL CONDUCT A DULY ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SUBJECT. A CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM IS AN ARRANGEMENT IN WHICH A SEWER AND WATER SYSTEM OR ANY COMBINATIONS THEREOF ARE COMBINED AS ONE UNIT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFORM RATES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1987.

Approved April 14, 1987.