

accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 276.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill No. 276**

AN ACT concerning

**Water Quality Pollution Response Activities**  
**Environment - Sanitary Sewer Overflows - Reporting**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to develop certain regulations governing a process for informing the public of certain water pollution incidents or emergencies; providing for the contents of the regulations; requiring the procedures that the Department of the Environment develops for certain water pollution incidents and emergencies to apply regardless of the designated use of the impacted waterway; requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations under this Act by a certain date; and generally relating to water pollution incidents and emergencies owner or operator of certain sewer systems or wastewater treatment plants to provide certain reports of certain overflows or treatment plant bypasses within certain periods of time to the Department of the Environment; requiring the Department, in cooperation with certain agencies, to develop procedures for requiring the owner or operator of certain sewer systems or wastewater treatment plants to provide certain public notification of certain sewage overflows; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and local health departments to make certain decisions and determinations about certain issues; providing that a certain owner or operator is not responsible for making certain decisions or determinations; requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations implementing the requirements of this Act; and generally relating to the reporting of sewer overflows.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Environment

Section ~~4-405(b), 9-302, 9-313, and 9-314~~ 9-331.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Environment**

~~4-405.~~

(b) (1) ~~The Department shall prescribe by rule or regulation approved methods, facilities, standards, and devices for transfer, storage, separating, removing,~~