

Alternate Contributory Pension Selection of the Employees' Pension System and shall notify in writing the Department of Legislative Services, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2007.

CHAPTER 365

(Senate Bill 970)

AN ACT concerning

Environment - Water Appropriation Permits - Penalties

FOR the purpose of altering permit requirements relating to the appropriation and use of State groundwater; exempting from permit requirements certain users that appropriate or use groundwater below a certain quantity; authorizing the Department of the Environment to seek civil penalties for certain violations relating to the misappropriation or misuse of State groundwater or otherwise failing to comply with a water appropriation and use permit; requiring the Department to meet and consult with a local government before bringing a certain civil action; providing that the Department shall be considered in compliance of certain provisions of this Act after certain consultation with a local government; providing for the issuance of orders or notices of violations and providing for certain hearings relating to orders; ~~increasing certain criminal penalties and eliminating a certain cap on criminal penalties~~ altering certain penalties for violations of certain provisions of law; requiring certain funds to be paid into the Maryland Clean Water Fund; altering the uses of the Maryland Clean Water Fund; defining certain terms; and generally relating to water appropriation permits.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Environment
Section 5-101, 5-502, 5-514, and 9-320
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article - Environment
Section 5-515 and 5-516
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)