

CHAPTER 609

(House Bill 1284)

AN ACT concerning

Mining – Hearings – Land Reclamation Committee

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Land Reclamation Committee to hold certain hearings in a certain manner; providing that the Committee shall approve reclamation plans for certain mining operations before a person may conduct certain mining operations; altering certain permit requirements for surface mining operations; authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to conduct certain hearings in a certain manner; raising to a certain level the minimum annual production level for an operation for which the Department may make certain assumptions concerning certain hydrologic consequences; clarifying that certain federal and State standards for stream pollution prevention apply to certain persons; and generally relating to mining operations in the State and the authority of the Land Reclamation Committee and the Department over mining operations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- Article – Natural Resources
- Section 7-205 and 7-505
- Annotated Code of Maryland
- (1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

BY adding to

- Article – Natural Resources
- Section 7-206
- Annotated Code of Maryland
- (1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

7-205.

(a) (1) There is a Land Reclamation Committee. It consists of the following 13 members:

- (i) Four members of the Department, including a chairman of the Committee appointed by the Secretary;
- (ii) A representative of the soil conservation district of Allegany County;