

SENATE BILL 401

M3

5r0801
CF HB 341

By: **Senators Astle, Bates, Guzzone, Hershey, Jennings, ~~and Klausmeier~~
Klausmeier, Middleton, Benson, Feldman, Kelley, and Mathias**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Underground Utility Damage Prevention – Connecting Buildings to Water**
3 **Supply Systems and Sewerage Systems – Detectable Wires**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that any new or replacement piping that is buried or installed
5 for the purpose of connecting a building to a water supply system or a sewerage
6 system be buried or installed with a certain wire that makes the piping detectable;
7 requiring that the wire buried or installed with the piping meet certain product
8 criteria, certain installation criteria, and run from certain locations along the piping
9 and water supply system or sewerage system; providing for the scope and application
10 of this Act; and generally relating to underground utility damage prevention through
11 the use of detectable wires to connect buildings to water supply systems or sewerage
12 systems.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Environment
15 Section 9–223.1
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2014 Replacement Volume)

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Public Utilities
20 Section 12–129 and 24–107
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

3 Article – Environment

4 9-223.1.

5 ANY NEW OR REPLACEMENT PIPING THAT IS BURIED OR INSTALLED FOR THE
6 PURPOSE OF CONNECTING A BUILDING TO A WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR A
7 SEWERAGE SYSTEM SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 12-129 OF THE
8 PUBLIC UTILITIES ARTICLE.

9 Article – Public Utilities

10 12-129.

11 (A) ~~ANY~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ANY NEW OR
12 REPLACEMENT PIPING THAT IS BURIED OR INSTALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
13 CONNECTING A BUILDING TO A WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR A SEWERAGE SYSTEM
14 SHALL BE BURIED OR INSTALLED WITH A WIRE THAT MAKES THE PIPING
15 DETECTABLE.

16 (B) THE WIRE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

17 (1) BE AN INSULATED COPPER TRACER WIRE THAT IS SUITABLE FOR
18 DIRECT BURIAL AND HAS AN AMERICAN WIRE GAUGE (AWG) OF AT LEAST 10, OR AN
19 EQUIVALENT PRODUCT;

20 (2) BE INSTALLED:

21 (I) IN THE SAME TRENCH AS THE PIPING THAT CONNECTS THE
22 BUILDING TO THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM;

23 (II) WITHIN 12 INCHES OF THE PIPING THAT CONNECTS THE
24 BUILDING TO THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM; AND

25 (III) WITH AT LEAST ONE END OF THE WIRE TERMINATING ABOVE
26 GRADE IN A LOCATION THAT IS ACCESSIBLE AND RESISTANT TO PHYSICAL DAMAGE,
27 SUCH AS IN A CLEANOUT OR NEXT TO AN EXTERNAL WALL OF THE BUILDING; AND

28 (3) RUN FROM WITHIN 5 FEET OF AN EXTERNAL WALL OF THE
29 BUILDING TO:

1 (I) THE POINT WHERE THE PIPING INTERSECTS WITH THE
2 WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM; AND

3 (II) THE POINT WHERE THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM DISPOSES OF OR
4 PROCESSES THE SEWAGE.

5 (C) THE REQUIREMENT OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION WITH REGARD
6 TO REPLACEMENT PIPING CONNECTING A BUILDING TO A WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM
7 OR A SEWERAGE SYSTEM:

8 (1) APPLIES ONLY TO A COMPLETE REPLACEMENT OF THE PIPING;
9 AND

10 (2) DOES NOT APPLY TO A REPAIR OR A PARTIAL REPLACEMENT OF
11 THE PIPING.

12 24-107.

13 ANY NEW OR REPLACEMENT PIPING THAT IS BURIED OR INSTALLED FOR THE
14 PURPOSE OF CONNECTING A BUILDING TO A WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR A
15 SEWERAGE SYSTEM SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 12-129 OF THIS
16 ARTICLE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to
18 apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or
19 application to any new or replacement piping that is buried or installed for the purpose of
20 connecting a building to a water supply system or a sewerage system before the effective
21 date of this Act.

22 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.