

Chapter 723

**(Senate Bill 671)**

AN ACT concerning

**State Board of Well Drillers – Fee Setting, Sunset Extension, and Program Evaluation**

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Well Drillers to set certain fees in a manner that will provide funds sufficient to cover the actual direct and indirect costs of regulating the well drilling industry; continuing the Board in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to a certain date the termination provisions relating to statutory and regulatory authority of the Board; requiring that an evaluation of the Board and the statutes and regulations that relate to the Board be performed on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the State Board of Well Drillers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Environment  
Section 13–207 and 13–602  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – State Government  
Section 8–403(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – State Government  
Section 8–403(b)(56)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

**Article – Environment**

13–207.

(a) **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD:**

(1) [The Board shall] **SHALL** set reasonable fees necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this title[.]; **AND**

(2) [The Board may] **MAY** set fees for the issuance and renewal of licenses according to class of license.

(b) **THE FEES ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE SET IN A MANNER THAT WILL PRODUCE FUNDS SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE ACTUAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF REGULATING THE WELL DRILLING INDUSTRY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE.**

(c) The Board shall pay any fee collected under this title into the General Fund of the State.

13–602.

Subject to the Program Evaluation Act, the provisions of this title and all rules and regulations adopted under this title creating the State Board of Well Drillers and relating to the regulation of well drillers are of no effect and may not be enforced after July 1, [2021] **2031**.

### **Article – State Government**

8–403.

(a) On or before December 15 of the evaluation year specified, the Department shall:

(1) conduct a preliminary evaluation of each governmental activity or unit to be evaluated under this section; and

(2) prepare a report on each preliminary evaluation conducted.

(b) Each of the following governmental activities or units and the statutes and regulations that relate to the governmental activities or units are subject to preliminary evaluation in the evaluation year specified:

(56) Well Drillers, State Board of (§ 13–201 of the Environment Article: [2018] **2028**).

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 25, 2019.**