

which shall be based upon the amount of water passing through the meter during the period between the last two readings, [said] A meter being required to be placed on each water connection by and at the sole expense of the commission. If the commission at any time [shall] DOES not have meters available to install in all the properties in a given locality that are connected to the system, then a flat rate shall be charged all properties in which meters have not yet been installed, which rate shall be uniform in each sanitary district and based upon the amount of water used. Bills for the amount of the charges as above specified shall be sent quarterly or semiannually, as the commission may determine, to each property served, and shall be [thereupon] payable at the office of the commission; and if any bill remains unpaid after [thirty] 30 days from date of sending, the commission shall, after written notice left upon the premises or mailed to the last known address of the owner, turn off water from the property in question, and the water [shall] MAY not be turned on again until [said] THE bill [shall have] HAS been paid, including a penalty of [five dollars (\$5.00)] \$5. If any bill [shall remain] REMAINS unpaid for [sixty] 60 days after being sent by the commission, it shall be collectible, together with a penalty of [\$.50] \$5, from the owner of the property served in the same manner, and subject to the same interest, as taxes are collectible in the county or counties in which the sanitary district or sanitary districts lie and [said] THE ready-to-serve charge, other service charges and all penalties shall be a first lien against [said] THE property. The sewer service charge and solid waste disposal charge shall be made on whatever reasonable basis the commission selects and may be collected on an annual, semiannual or quarterly basis. Neither the dates of collection nor the intervals between [such] THE dates need be uniform throughout a sanitary district. If any bill for [such] sewer service charge or solid waste disposal charge remains unpaid for [sixty] 60 days after being sent by the commission, it shall be collectible from the owner of the property served in the same manner, TOGETHER WITH A PENALTY OF \$5, and subject to the same interest, as taxes are collectible in the county or counties in which the sanitary district or sanitary districts lie, and shall be a first lien against [said] THE property.]]

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 663A be and it is hereby added to Article 43 - Health, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement), to read as follows:

Article 43 - Health

663A.

IN WORCESTER COUNTY, ANY STATE, COUNTY, OR MUNICIPAL AGENCY WHICH PROVIDES SEWER SERVICE AND SOLID WASTE