

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

Drafted by: Carter

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Stored – 10/19/15

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Checked by _____

By: **Prince George’s County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Board of Ethics – Subpoena**
3 **Power**

4 **PG/MC 105–16**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of Ethics established by the Washington
6 Suburban Sanitary Commission to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses
7 to testify or to produce other evidence; providing that certain subpoenas may be
8 judicially enforced; and generally relating to the powers of the Board of Ethics
9 established by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Public Utilities
12 Section 19–101
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Public Utilities
17 Section 19–106
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Preamble

WHEREAS, The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission is required by law to establish certain ethics regulations for its employees with respect to conflicts of interest and financial disclosures; and

WHEREAS, The Commission has established a Board of Ethics in accordance with Title 5, Subtitle 8, Part IV of the General Provisions Article that is equivalent to the provisions of the State Ethics Law; and

WHEREAS, The Commission contends that the Board of Ethics is unable to perform its function effectively without similar authority to issue subpoenas as the State Ethics Commission; now, therefore,

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

Article – Public Utilities

19–101.

In this title, “Board” means the Board of Ethics established by the Commission under regulations adopted in accordance with Title 5, Subtitle 8, Part IV of the General Provisions Article.

19–106.

(A) The Board may:

(1) administer oaths; AND

(2) ISSUE SUBPOENAS FOR THE ATTENDANCE OF WITNESSES TO TESTIFY OR TO PRODUCE OTHER EVIDENCE.

(B) A SUBPOENA ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE ENFORCED JUDICIALLY.

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1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2016.