

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1122 (Delegate Kipke)
Health and Government Operations

Health - Food Service Facilities - Septic Systems

This bill authorizes a local health department (LHD) to adjust the capacity requirement for certification of a septic system used by a food service facility based on the actual occupancy of the facility's seats throughout the calendar year.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Because LHDs, on behalf of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), already inspect and certify septic systems in food service facilities, the bill does not directly affect government finances or operations.

Local Effect: Because LHDs, on behalf of MDE, already inspect and certify septic systems in food service facilities, the bill does not directly affect government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: LHDs, on behalf of MDE, already inspect and certify septic systems in food service facilities prior to issuing a building permit for any new or existing establishment. Specifically, LHDs are required to certify that an existing or proposed septic system is adequate for existing (and any foreseeable increase in) flows.

As specified in regulation, maximum daily flows must be used as the basis for system design regardless of the type of treatment unit or disposal method proposed. MDE advises that this approach is necessary to ensure that septic systems have sufficient capacity to handle peak daily flows.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 22, 2013
mc/ljm

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