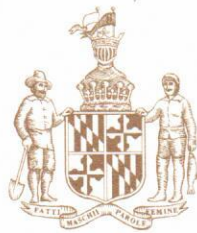


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HB1484 – State Board of Environmental Health Specialists – Fees – General Fund- Support

Good afternoon Madam Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and the esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee. I am here to present **HB1484 – State Board of Environmental Health Specialists – Fees – General Fund.**

In FY 2013, the Legislature transferred the Board of Environmental Health Specialists from the Department of the Environment to the Department of Health, and as a part of the switch, their funding mechanism was switched from the general fund to the Specialists Fund. Once this change was completed, the Board completed a long-term fiscal projection which showed that if revenues did not increase, the Board would run a deficit. Over the past few years, the collecting of licensing fees has proven to be insufficient.

HB1484 eliminates the State Board of Environmental Health Specialists Fund and requires that the State Board be funded through the General Fund.

By changing the funding in this manner, from a Special fund to the General fund, it would help provide sufficient funding to the Board without having to pass those costs onto licensees who have little to no discretion on setting their salaries to recoup licensing fees.

Thank you for your time. I urge a favorable report for **HB1484.**