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**BILL NO.:**            **SB 254**

**TITLE:**                **On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Inspection - Licensing**

**SPONSOR:**            **Senator Young**

**COMMITTEE:**        **Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs**

**POSITION:**          **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**                **February 11, 2020**

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 254 – On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Inspection - Licensing. This bill would require an individual to hold a license issued by the Department of the Environment to perform work on onsite sewage disposal systems, and standardize property transfer inspections for those systems.

Baltimore County has undertaken a massive overhaul of its sewage disposal systems in recent years, and the County understands the consequences of failing to properly inspect or maintain our sewage disposal systems. By establishing an on-site sewage disposal license, SB 254 would diminish the likelihood that non-qualified individuals would be working in a field that requires a fair degree of specialization.

Furthermore, this bill would introduce oversight to an as-yet unregulated field. Currently, property transfer inspections of on-site sewage disposal systems are not required by the State, leaving buyers vulnerable to unanticipated costs. Guaranteeing the inspection of sewage disposal systems by qualified inspectors will establish new standards for liability should those systems fail and lower the risk of failure for services that we too often take for granted.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 254. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.