

January 27, 2021

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve  
Environment & Transportation Committee  
House Office Building, Room 251,  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

**RE: Support to HB 407 (On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Inspection - Licensing) with Amendments**

Dear Chairman Barve:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees of the building industry across the State of Maryland, supports House Bill 407 (On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Inspection - Licensing) with Amendments

This measure requires anyone engaged in the inspection of septic systems to obtain a septic inspection license from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) by July 1, 2022, and established penalties for violators of this bill.

While we understand the importance of insuring that septic systems are constructed, installed, and maintained properly by professionals, this measure is redundant for certain industries. Many of our industry's plumbing contractors install and inspect septic systems, and already go through an extensive licensing and regulatory process as part of obtaining their Master Plumber/Gasfitter license. They are also currently required to complete and pass a certification class to perform new Best Available Technology (BAT) septic system installations, which are administered through the BAT manufacturer. Since master plumbers already must meet significant licensing requirements, we request an amendment exempting master plumbers from the additional and redundant requirements of this bill.

MBIA respectfully requests the Committee to accept this amendment and give this measure an favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: House Environment & Transportation Committee Members