

Shannon Moore, Director

SB 483 – Private Well Safety Act of 2023

DATE: February 15, 2023

COMMITTEE: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

POSITION: Support

FROM: Shannon Moore, Director, Division of Energy and Environment

Thank you for your consideration of SB 483 – Private Well Safety Act of 2023. As the Director of the Division of Energy and Environment in Frederick County, I urge the committee to give SB 483 a favorable report.

This legislation provides counties with additional tools to help residents to discover well contamination and remediate issues. Currently, citizens have a disincentive to test wells and to remediate due to cost. Counties would be able to apply for grants on behalf of residents to lower the costs of testing where there are regions with some examples of wellhead contamination, suspected contaminant plumes, or known past practices that could contribute to well contamination.

This legislation would help residents to be better informed for their own safety and would allow them to know prior to buying or selling a property if their property has a well with contaminants above legal thresholds. This will lead to remediation and ultimately better health outcomes. This legislation fills a need that is not otherwise being met and could save lives.

For these reasons, Frederick County is in support of SB483 – Private Well Safety Act of 2023.

Thank you for your consideration. On behalf of Frederick County Government, I urge a favorable report.

Shannon Moore Director Division of Energy and Environment Frederick County Government 30 N. Market St., Frederick, MD 21701 (O) 301.600.1413 (C) 240.608.7406