



Maryland

Department of the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary

March 03, 2023

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 976 - Mold Assessment and Remediation – Standards

Dear Chair Barve and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or the Department) has reviewed House Bill 976 and would like to provide the following information on the bill.

House Bill 976 would require MDE, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Department of General Services, to adopt regulations on or before June 1, 2025, that establish five standards for mold assessment and remediation, as well as a risk reduction standard for mold hazards.

While MDE agrees that mold assessment, remediation and risk reduction standards for mold hazards are important issues, MDE does not have staff expertise in mold-related issues. Mold remediation is the domain of industrial hygienists, which the Department does not employ. MDE, therefore, would need to hire staff and obtain contractual assistance to meet the requirements under this bill. Additionally, the bill is silent on what entity would implement and enforce the standards established under the regulations

Thank you for your consideration. We will continue to monitor HB 976 during the Committee's deliberations, and I am available to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me at 410-260-6301 or by e-mail at gabrielle.leach@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Leach
Deputy Director
Legislative and Intergovernmental Relations

cc: The Honorable Shaneka Henson
Christopher R. Hoagland, Air and Radiation Administration