



*The Voice of Merit Construction*

January 31, 2024

**Mike Henderson**

*President  
Greater Baltimore Chapter  
mhenderson@abcbaltimore.org*

**Chris Garvey**

*President & CEO  
Chesapeake Shores Chapter  
cgarvey@abc-chesapeake.org*

**Dan Bond CAE**

*President & CEO  
Metro Washington Chapter  
dbond@abcmetrowashington.org*

**Amos McCoy**

*President & CEO  
Cumberland Valley Chapter  
amos@abccvc.com*

**Tricia Baldwin**

*Chairman  
Joint Legislative Committee  
tbaldwin@reliablecontracting.com*

**Marcus Jackson**

*Director of Government Affairs  
Metro Washington Chapter  
mjackson@abcmetrowashington.org*

**Martin "MJ" Kraska**

*Government Affairs Director  
Chesapeake Shores Chapter  
mkraska@abc-chesapeake.org*

Additional representation by:  
**Harris Jones & Malone, LLC**

6901 Muirkirk Meadows Drive  
Suite F  
Beltsville, MD 20705  
(T) (301) 595-9711  
(F) (301) 595-9718

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee  
From: Associated Builders & Contractors  
RE: HB 245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation  
Position: Unfavorable

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) represent more than 1500 construction and construction-related companies through its four Maryland chapters. Our members believe in the tenets of free enterprise, investing in their workforce and giving back to the communities in which they live, work and play.

House Bill 245 authorizes the Department of the Environment to charge a fee for processing and issuing on-site sewage disposal permits and individual well construction permits under certain circumstances and authorizes the Department to establish a certain fee for the Responsible Personnel Training Program Certification.

ABC is opposed to HB 245, while we acknowledge the intent of the legislation, we express concerns about the potential consequences of this legislation. The introduction of various fees and permits create an additional financial burden for Maryland businesses. These increased fees associated with air quality control permits, on-site sewage disposal permits, and individual well construction permits could hinder economic growth and place undue strain on industries. Overall, the bill's provisions could impede the competitiveness and financial stability of companies operating in Maryland.

ABC appreciates your consideration and, for these reasons, respectfully requests a **unfavorable** report on House Bill 245.

*Martin "MJ" Kraska  
Government Affairs Director  
Chesapeake Shores Chapter*