



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION

Testimony in Support of HB480 – St. Mary's County – County Plans – Public Sewerage Systems and Water Supply Systems

March 25, 2025

Good Afternoon Chair Feldman and Members of the Committee:

I am here today to present House Bill 480. The purpose of this bill is to remove old provisions of law regarding sewer and water systems in St. Mary's County and bring regulations in line with the rest of the State.

The St. Mary's Metropolitan Commission has services over 15,000 households. Currently, St. Mary's County has specific additional requirements on sewer planning not required in other Maryland jurisdictions. The Commissioners and the Planning Commission must approve any updates and changes to Water and Sewer plans, requiring two public hearings – one before the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and one before the Planning Commission.

Public meetings before the Planning Commission are seldom attended by the public. These additional hearing add unnecessary bureaucracy, delay, and cost to the review process.

Removing the requirement for a Planning Commission hearing would bring St. Mary's County's public meeting requirement in line with the rest of the state still allowing for public input before approval.

Respectfully, I request a favorable report on House Bill 480 to repeal this section of the code and put St. Mary's County's Sewerage System and Water Supply System review process on par with the rest of the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd B. Morgan".

Delegate Todd B. Morgan

Chair, St. Mary's County Delegation