

Testimony in Support of SB0732
Sewage Sludge Utilization Permits – Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances – Concentration Limits

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee 18 February 2025

Submitted on 14 February 2025 before 6 pm

To the Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Carole Trippe. I live in Chestertown, MD near the Chester River on the Eastern Shore. I urge a favorable report on SB0732. Thank you in advance for your consideration of support.

Biosolids containing PFAS – persistent and harmful “forever chemicals” – pose a serious risk to public health and the environment. When spread on farmland, these chemicals pollute soil, groundwater, crops, and wildlife, endangering communities, especially in rural areas like where I live on the Eastern Shore. To address this crisis, **Maryland must implement strict PFAS limits in biosolids and mandate testing before land application** to protect drinking water, food supplies, and ecosystems from further contamination.

This Bill will:

- Require testing of biosolids for PFAS contamination at least 14 days before land application
- Require the Maryland Department of the Environment to set health-based concentration limits for PFOS and PFOA in biosolids applied to agricultural land
- Restrict the application of biosolids with PFOS and PFOA concentrations higher than the limits.

By testing biosolids for PFAS and restricting application based on human and environmental health-based limits, Maryland will target biosolids disposal while protecting public health and the environment.

I support Bill SB0732 because it proactively protects Maryland’s drinking water, food supply, and environment from harmful PFAS contamination, **and will help to ensure our future generation’s health and well-being.**

Thank you for your consideration, and I look to this committee to give SB0732 a **favorable** report.

Sincerely,
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