



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 26, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: SB 871 - Department of the Environment - Community Water and Sewerage Systems - Cybersecurity Planning and Assessments

Position: INFO

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) was originally opposed to SB 871 as it was introduced. The new amendments, however, make us more comfortable with the current bill language. The League understands and appreciates the goals of this legislation. Between various educational workshops and new partnerships, we have sought to improve the overall defense and readiness of local systems.

That said, local water and sewage systems are likely to incur increased costs to meet the bill's requirements. These costs could be significant depending on the system's size, the current cybersecurity measures in place, and the standards set forth in regulation. Our partners have advised that zero-trust frameworks can be particularly costly. This bill also requires ongoing maturity assessments of our systems.

We ask you to keep this in mind when considering Senate Bill 871. For more information, please contact Iris Ibegbulem, Senior Associate, Advocacy and Public Affairs at irisi@mdmunicipal.org or 443-295-9457. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.

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