

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 721

(Senators Pinsky and Harris)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

Private Wastewater Treatment Act of 2009

This bill prohibits the installation of an individual sewerage system for residential use unless an existing on-site sewage disposal (septic) system fails and cannot be repaired or replaced by any means and the installation is approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). An “individual sewerage system” is defined as a privately owned system of sewers, piping, and treatment tanks, or other facilities, that serves only a single lot for the disposal of sewage and discharges to the surface waters of the State.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The installation of an individual sewerage system is prohibited by regulation from being permitted where an adequate community sewerage facility is available.

Background: MDE advises that there are likely fewer than five individual sewerage systems installed for residential use in the State. These systems are substantially more expensive than a septic system.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1105 (Delegate Frush, *et al.*) - Environmental Matters.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2009
ncs/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 27, 2009

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