

HOUSE BILL 1068

M3, J2

2lr2427
CF SB 113

By: **Delegate Stein**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Health Departments, Environmental Health Specialists, and On-Site**
3 **Sewage Disposal Systems – Systems Standards, Regulations, Applications, and**
4 **Funding**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring a database or system created by the Department of the
6 Environment for local health departments to be designed in a certain manner;
7 requiring the Department of the Environment to take certain actions regarding
8 applications and plans for the installation of on-site sewage disposal systems;
9 requiring the approving authority for an application for the installation of an on-site
10 sewage disposal system to provide certain information to an applicant under certain
11 circumstances; requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in consultation with
12 the Department of the Environment, to promote certain standards and regulations,
13 develop certain statewide standards, and host certain informational meetings;
14 requiring the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year, to include in the annual
15 budget bill a certain appropriation to the Maryland Department of Health for
16 environmental health specialists; requiring the Department of the Environment to
17 adopt regulations on or before a certain date establishing that a certain requirement
18 regarding subsurface disposal of sewage applies to detached dwellings; and generally
19 relating to environmental health specialists and on-site sewage disposal systems.

20 BY adding to

21 Article – Environment
22 Section 1–408
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

25 BY adding to

26 Article – Environment
27 Section 9–1114
28 Annotated Code of Maryland
29 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY adding to
2 Article – Health Occupations
3 Section 21–103 and 21–104
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2021 Replacement Volume)

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
7 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article – Environment**

9 **1–408.**

10 ANY DATABASE OR SYSTEM CREATED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL
11 HEALTH DEPARTMENTS SHALL BE DESIGNED IN A MANNER THAT:

12 (1) AUTOMATICALLY FILLS IN RELEVANT DATA THAT HAS ALREADY
13 BEEN ENTERED FOR OTHER STATE AND LOCAL DATABASES AND SYSTEMS; AND

14 (2) MAKES THE DATA ENTERED AVAILABLE FOR AUTOMATICALLY
15 FILLING OTHER STATE AND LOCAL DATABASES AND SYSTEMS.

16 **9–1114.**

17 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

18 (1) CREATE A SYSTEM FOR TRACKING ONLINE THE STATUS OF AN
19 APPLICATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AND ASSOCIATED PERMITS FOR AN
20 ON–SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM; AND

21 (2) DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE STANDARDIZED PERMIT FORMS
22 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ON–SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS.

23 (B) IF AN APPROVING AUTHORITY DENIES AN APPLICATION FOR THE
24 INSTALLATION OF AN ON–SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM, THE APPROVING
25 AUTHORITY SHALL PROVIDE THE APPLICANT WITH INFORMATION ON HOW TO
26 APPEAL THE DECISION.

27 **Article – Health Occupations**

28 **21–103.**

29 THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
30 ENVIRONMENT, SHALL:

1 **(1) PROMOTE CONSISTENT STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS UNDER**
2 **THIS TITLE;**

3 **(2) DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE STATEWIDE STANDARDS FOR**
4 **PRIVATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS WHO WORK WITH ON-SITE**
5 **SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS; AND**

6 **(3) HOST MONTHLY INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS ON THE**
7 **INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THIS TITLE AND CORRESPONDING**
8 **REGULATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO ARE OR WORK WITH**
9 **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS.**

10 **21-104.**

11 **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
12 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF**
13 **\$5,000,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDRESSING WAGE DISPARITIES AND**
14 **STAFFING SHORTAGES OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS LICENSED BY**
15 **THE BOARD.**

16 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before October 1, 2023,**
17 **the Department of the Environment shall adopt regulations establishing that the**
18 **requirement for a minimum area of 10,000 square feet for subsurface disposal of sewage**
19 **under COMAR 26.03.03.03 applies to detached dwellings.**

20 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
21 **October 1, 2022.**