



February 10, 2020

RE: **IN SUPPORT** HB136; Environment – On-Site Wastewater Services – Regulation

Dear Assembly Member(s),

My name is Ryan Nagi, I am a regional service provider in Southern Maryland.

I am in support of HB136. I have been performing onsite sewage disposal system inspections for several years. I have also become a septic installer in Calvert and Saint Mary's Counties. I believe the proposal bill would benefit the industry in Maryland in several ways. The two most important benefits to approving HB136 I believe are more protection for consumers and accountability for industry professionals and continuity for onsite sewage disposal system inspections for property transfers in Maryland.

There have been several instances where I have been to an inspection and rated a component of a system in unacceptable condition a few months after another company had rated it acceptable. This causes me to have to explain that the previous inspector/company did not follow the recommended guidelines. Our company's OSDS inspection prices are the highest in our area due to our thoroughness and willingness to follow the recommended guidelines. Because these guidelines are only recommended many persons and companies in our area do not follow them. With consumer education the price differential has not hindered our ability to gain customers as some in the industry have suggested. Consumer education

Not too long ago we had a system on a waterfront property that was inspected prior and the system was said to be in acceptable condition. When we performed our inspection, we found some fixtures within the home discharged into a seepage pit. This was only discovered by us pumping the tank and watching the tank fill back up almost as fast as it was being pumped. There were no drain fields on this part of the system. Shortly after our inspection the homeowner hired a licensed septic contractor who did not pull permits. The contractor only installed a trench off the seepage pit. I was told this situation was sent to Maryland Environmental Crimes.

These situations and lack of oversight could be prevented or at least lessened with proper laws and regulations in place. Please pass HB136 to improve consumer protection and industry continuity.

S. Ryan Nagi

Owner

SPEK Home Inspections, LLC