

March 4, 2020

TESTIMONY for HOUSE BILL 1540

**Chairman Barve
Vice-Chairman Stein
Members of the Environment & Transportation Committee**

I wish to offer my support for House Bill 1540. As a fire and water damage restoration company and mold remediation provider for nearly 45 years, I am happy to see an attempt to pass legislation that will protect families, patients and tenants from the health hazards that may follow when living and/or working in a contaminated environment.

The initial discovery of microbial growth occurs because of a moisture issue. According to the IICRC R520 (Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification) the industry standard states, "Controlling relative humidity (RH) in the indoor environment is essential to successful mold remediation, as well as in the overall prevention of indoor mold problems." Therefore, basic indoor air quality, i.e., controlling relative humidity is a starting point to avoid mold from occurring.

Training and educating those potential inspectors in detecting moisture levels and code enforcers should be addressed.

This bill demonstrates your committee's commitment to the health and welfare of many and for that reason, you can count on my staff to assist you in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Diane Whittles
President
SERVPRO of Annapolis/Severna Park

Certified Residential Microbial Remediator
IICRC certified – Water Damage Restoration, Applied Microbial Remediation, Applied Structural Drying,
Health and Safety, American Bio Recovery Association – Certified Bio Recovery Technician