

## HB 248 Legionnaires' Disease Prevention Act

Favorable with Amendment

TO: Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: David Crow  
ASSE 12080 Certified - Legionella Water Safety & Management

DATE: January 24, 2022

RE: House Bill 248 Legionnaires' Disease Prevention Act 2022 Legislative Session

Committee Chair Delegate Barve, Vice Chair Delegate Stein, and esteemed members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit these written remarks concerning the prevention of Legionnaires disease as proposed in HB 248 from the 2022 legislative session. My name is David Crow, and I am currently self-employed as a consultant after having spent 36 years with the Garratt-Callahan Company, a water treatment products and services company. I am ASSE 12080 Certified in Legionella Water Safety & Management and as a Water Treatment Specialist Class III (Texas). My area of expertise and employment includes the development and implementation of water management plans, risk assessments, *Legionella* testing, emergency disinfections, and supplemental disinfection. I applaud this bill's commitment to preventing Legionnaires' disease and support the enactment of sound public policy that further protects Maryland citizens from Legionnaires' disease.

In my water treatment career, I have been involved with active Legionnaires' disease cases resulting in deaths that required emergency disinfection and supplemental disinfection to mitigate *Legionella pneumophila*. I was involved in some of the first water management plans to be implemented, even before the implementation of ASHRAE 188.

HB 248 does a good job of identifying a problem with solutions to be carried out under the guidance of the Maryland Department of the Environment. HB 248 correctly specifies *Legionella pneumophila* quantification as opposed to all *Legionella* species as we know that >98.5% of outbreaks are *Legionella pneumophila* related. I do have one recommendation for an addition, under C 2 of this bill – Validation Testing – it should state “Require validation testing, [by an accredited laboratory](#), of water to minimize the growth and transmission of *Legionella* in a building water system”.

### Conclusion

HB 248 is a needed bill and a good bill that would help protect the citizens of Maryland from infections of *Legionella pneumophila*.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to be able to submit this written testimony. If I can be of further help in answering questions by phone, video, or in person, I would appreciate the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,

*David Crow*

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