

Municipally Owned Utilities

Testimony for Senate Bill 513

Environment – Collection and Reporting of Drinking Water and Wastewater Data and Information – Requirements

Position: Oppose

Dear Chairman Feldman and the Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of the Municipally owned utilities (“Munis”) in Maryland, comprised of the towns of Easton, Hagerstown, Williamsport, Berlin, and Thurmont.

The Munis oppose SB 513, which requires the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to create, operate, and maintain a statewide Open Water Data Reporting Platform to make drinking water and wastewater service information publicly available.

While this legislation is well intended, the Munis simply do not have the ability to meet the long list of requirements proposed therein. Each of the Munis have limited financial resources and personnel.

For these reasons, the Munis respectfully request that this committee provide SB 513 with an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

Brett Lininger

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