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**HB 831 Environment – Septic Systems – Online Database
House Environment and Transportation Committee**

March 1, 2023

Mathew Geckle
Vice-President

Favorable

The lack of readily available information about the location type, design and history of septic systems cause many problems.

As a septic professional I should not have to wait for days or sometimes weeks to get the information on a system that I have been called out to repair. Not knowing the design or having access to the drawings of a system makes doing repair difficult. The homeowner should not have sewage backing up into the building or yard or have alarms going off for days because of the lack of this information. But this is what happens now.

Every county is different which is fine if every county could get me the information quickly. Sadly, only a few can provide quick answers. With an online database I could pull up the records from my truck and be able to better understand the problems almost immediately not days or weeks later. Weekends and holidays would no longer slow things down even more.

I do recognize that changing files boxes and cabinets full of dusty files into digital form can be daunting and expensive. Local governments should get the support they not just add it onto already burdened staff. Nor should the counties have to have a dedicated staff doing nothing but pulling records all day like now. We need these offices do other important work.

A statewide database will streamline my work and the local health office's. While getting the database set up and fully populated is challenging for sure the benefits will be a huge time saving for everyone.

Please give HB831 a favorable report

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Matthew Geckle

Vice-President