

MICHELE GUYTON
Legislative District 42B
Baltimore County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 25, 2025

Favorable

HB 747 – On-Site Wastewater Systems – Requirement for Inspection and Pumping Services

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of HB 747, which addresses environmental contamination associated with neglected wastewater systems. This legislation requires that septic systems must be inspected and pumped at the time of a property transfer if these services have not been performed in the past three years. The three-year timeline was suggested by the Maryland On-site Wastewater Association. I also negotiated amendments with the group to give exceptions for certain transfers such as between family members if there was an inspection in the previous five years when the transfer was through a refinancing or no change in ownership. There is additionally a requirement to report a failed septic system to the local health Department, modeled after the well inspection legislation that this body passed two years ago.

There is clear evidence that failing septic systems contribute to water contamination, particularly E. Coli, but there are currently no requirements to inspect them. This bill formalizes best practices and protects both homeowners, renters and our environment.

I respectfully ask for a favorable report on HB 747.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton
District 42B