



Affiliate of The Maryland Association of Counties, Inc.
March 4, 2025

TO: Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee
FROM: Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors
RE: HB1124 – Dorchester County – Well and On-Site Sewage Disposal Activities- Privatization Program

The Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors (Conference) provide this letter of **Support with Amendments** for HB1124 in their capacities as the state’s twenty-four Environmental Health Directors who carry out delegated authorities from both MDE and MDH. The Conference supports with amendments, the privatization of well and on-site sewage disposal activities for a specified duration period and should not be viewed as a permanent solution for Local Health Departments. Please consider the following amendments to HB1124:

On Page 2, under (2) (I) replace, “Specify whether the privatization program has a limited duration or is ongoing”, with **A privatization program will only be utilized for a specified duration of time until such time the delegated approving authority has sufficient trained licensed environmental health specialists to perform all well and on-site sewage disposal activities.**

On Page 2, after (3) (III) “poses a risk to public health or the environment.” Add **(IV) If at any time the Department determines unethical decisions have been made and there is a conflict of interest between parties.**

Therefore, the Conference provides a **letter of Support with Amendments** for HB1124

We would also point out that the County and the Local Health Department should be continuously working towards investing in their Environmental Health programs within the Local Health Department and utilizing the resources that are available through Salisbury University's internship program.

For more information:

Conference: Lisa A Laschalt, President, Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors,
Phone: 301-609-6758, lisa.laschalt@maryland.gov