



March 31, 2026

House Bill 1196
Environment - Water Quality Testing - Secondary Maximum Contaminant
Levels Action Plan

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1196 – Environment - Water Quality Testing - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels Action Plan. This Bill requires the Department of Environment to develop a statewide action plan for secondary maximum contaminant levels enforcement that will address critical water quality issues across the state, especially those present in mobile home communities.

There are more than 400 mobile home communities across Maryland with significant concentrations in the northeast, the Eastern Shore, and southern Maryland, such as Lothian in Anne Arundel County. These mobile home communities provide unique affordable housing solutions to residents that include retirees, veterans, people with disabilities, immigrants, state and county employees, and families with low or moderate incomes. Despite the name “mobile homes”, residents live in manufactured units that serve as their permanent housing, which they must rent the land beneath them and pay separately for utilities and fees set by private owners. However, private investors in mobile home communities have been negligent in maintaining essential infrastructure. Due to the nature of current mobile home regulations that enable predatory practices, many residents fear retaliation and continue to face long-standing problems of recurring water shutoffs, foul or discolored water, and unexplained fees.

It is critical that we ensure all residents have access to safe, clean, drinking water. This Bill as amended authorizes the Department of Environment to enforce secondary drinking water regulations and help protect our already financially vulnerable residents. For those reasons, Anne Arundel County respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 1196.