



February 28, 2017

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 281 – Environment – On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems – Best Available Technology for Nitrogen Removal – Prohibition – **Oppose**

Dear Delegate Barve:

House Bill 281 prohibits a person from installing, or having installed, on a property a person owns in the State in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed, or the watershed of a nitrogen-impaired body of water, an on-site sewage disposal system to service a newly constructed building. That is unless the on-site sewage disposal system utilizes specified nitrogen removal technology. It also repeals specified obsolete provisions of law.

This Bill would significantly impact housing affordability on new construction throughout most of Maryland. The bill requires expensive septic systems costing \$10,000 more than conventional systems. The legislation reverses a regulation just passed in November that limited these systems to areas close to the Bay where they work more efficiently.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, opposes this bill and asks that you give it a unfavorable report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Susan W. Krebs
Senator Justin Ready