

# HOUSE BILL 302

M3, C2  
HB 136/20 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

1lr0834

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By: **Delegate Stein**

Requested: October 2, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – On-Site Wastewater Services – Regulation**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the State Board of On-Site Wastewater Professionals in  
4 the Department of the Environment; specifying the purpose and composition of the  
5 Board; specifying the term of a Board member; providing for the appointment of  
6 Board members; authorizing the Governor to remove a member of the Board under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring the Board to designate the chair of the Board;  
8 requiring the Board to make certain determinations relating to its officers; specifying  
9 that a majority of the members then serving on the Board is a quorum; requiring the  
10 Board to determine the times and places of its meetings; specifying that a Board  
11 member is entitled to certain reimbursement; authorizing the Board to employ staff  
12 in accordance with the State budget; requiring the Board to make recommendations  
13 to the Department on the adoption of certain regulations on or before a certain date;  
14 requiring the Board to review certain regulations proposed by the Department;  
15 requiring the Board to establish a certain code of ethics for certain individuals;  
16 specifying the duties of the Board; requiring the Department, in consultation with  
17 the Board, to set by regulation certain fees for certain purposes; requiring the Board  
18 to publish a schedule of the fees; requiring the Board and the Department to pay  
19 certain funds collected from certain fees into the On-Site Wastewater Professionals  
20 Fund; establishing the Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of  
21 the Fund; requiring the Board to administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer  
22 to hold the Fund, and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the  
23 contents of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the Fund may be used;  
24 requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; providing for  
25 expenditures from the Fund; requiring the Board to submit a certain annual report  
26 to the Secretary of the Environment; requiring, subject to a certain exception, a  
27 certain individual to be licensed by the Board before performing certain on-site  
28 wastewater services in the State; authorizing a certain individual to continue to  
29 perform certain services until certain license requirements are established if the  
30 individual pays a certain fee to the Department; requiring an applicant for a license

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 to meet certain requirements established by the Department by regulation and to  
2 submit a certain application and pay a certain fee to the Board; requiring that a  
3 business performing on-site wastewater services or contracting to perform certain  
4 on-site wastewater services have an employee or owner licensed by the Board;  
5 specifying that a certain license is valid for a certain period of time; authorizing the  
6 Board to take certain disciplinary action against an applicant or a licensee under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring the Board to give a certain individual an  
8 opportunity for a hearing before the Board and to give certain notice and hold the  
9 hearing in accordance with certain provisions of law; authorizing the Board to  
10 administer oaths under certain circumstances; authorizing the Board to hear and  
11 determine a matter under certain circumstances; authorizing a person aggrieved by  
12 a decision of the Board to take certain action under certain circumstances;  
13 prohibiting a person from performing certain on-site wastewater services without a  
14 license from the Board; prohibiting the borrowing, renting, or transferring of a  
15 license; establishing a certain penalty for violations of this Act; requiring that the  
16 failure to pay a certain penalty be forwarded to the Central Collection Unit under  
17 certain circumstances; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of law requiring  
18 interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the State; defining  
19 certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; specifying that this Act does  
20 not prevent or prohibit a local government from imposing certain requirements or  
21 standards; requiring that the Board be fully operational on or before a certain date;  
22 specifying the terms of the initial members of the Board; requiring the Department,  
23 in consultation with the Board, to adopt certain regulations on or before a certain  
24 date; and generally relating to the establishment of the State Board of On-Site  
25 Wastewater Professionals and the regulation of individuals performing on-site  
26 wastewater services in the State.

27 BY adding to

28 Article – Environment

29 Section 9–11A–01 through 9–11A–21 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11A.  
30 On-Site Wastewater Services”

31 Annotated Code of Maryland

32 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

33 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

34 Article – State Finance and Procurement

35 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)

36 Annotated Code of Maryland

37 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

38 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

39 Article – State Finance and Procurement

40 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)122. and 123.

41 Annotated Code of Maryland

42 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

43 BY adding to

1 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
2 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)124.  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
6 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

7 **Article – Environment**

8 **SUBTITLE 11A. ON–SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES.**

9 **PART I. DEFINITIONS; GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

10 **9–11A–01.**

11 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
12 INDICATED.

13 (B) “BOARD” MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF ON–SITE WASTEWATER  
14 PROFESSIONALS.

15 (C) “LICENSE” MEANS ANY CATEGORY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSE OR  
16 CERTIFICATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD TO AN INDIVIDUAL TO PERFORM ON–SITE  
17 WASTEWATER SERVICES IN THE STATE.

18 (D) “ON–SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES” MEANS ANY ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED  
19 WITH THE DESIGN, INSTALLATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, PUMPING,  
20 REPAIR, OR PROPERTY TRANSFER INSPECTION OF AN ON–SITE WASTEWATER  
21 SYSTEM.

22 (E) (1) “ON–SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM” MEANS:

23 (I) A WASTEWATER SYSTEM DESIGNED TO TREAT AND DISPOSE  
24 OF EFFLUENT ON THE SAME PROPERTY THAT PRODUCES THE WASTEWATER; OR

25 (II) A HOLDING TANK.

26 (2) “ON–SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM” INCLUDES A SEPTIC OR ANY  
27 OTHER ON–SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM.

28 **9–11A–02.**

1 (A) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED BY A  
2 LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL AGENCY WHILE PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF THAT  
3 EMPLOYMENT.

4 (B) NOTHING IN THIS SUBTITLE PREVENTS OR PROHIBITS A LOCAL  
5 GOVERNMENT FROM IMPOSING REQUIREMENTS OR STANDARDS THAT ARE MORE  
6 STRINGENT THAN THE REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN THIS  
7 SUBTITLE.

8 9-11A-03. RESERVED.

9 9-11A-04. RESERVED.

10 PART II. STATE BOARD OF ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS.

11 9-11A-05.

12 (A) THERE IS A STATE BOARD OF ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS  
13 IN THE DEPARTMENT.

14 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD IS TO:

15 (1) REGULATE INDIVIDUALS WHO PERFORM ON-SITE WASTEWATER  
16 SERVICES IN THE STATE; AND

17 (2) ESTABLISH, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT,  
18 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ON-SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEMS THAT ARE NOT  
19 REQUIRED TO BE PERMITTED UNDER § 9-323 OF THIS TITLE, INCLUDING  
20 STANDARDS FOR THE PROCESSES, PROCEDURES, TECHNIQUES, AND MATERIALS  
21 ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPER DESIGN, ACCEPTABLE INSTALLATION, ADEQUATE  
22 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING PUMPING OR REPAIR, AND PROPERTY  
23 TRANSFER INSPECTION OF AN ON-SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM.

24 9-11A-06.

25 (A) (1) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING NINE MEMBERS:

26 (I) SIX INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE  
27 ADVICE OF THE SECRETARY AND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE;

28 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT, DESIGNATED  
29 BY THE SECRETARY;

1 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND CONFERENCE  
2 OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS, DESIGNATED BY THE MARYLAND  
3 CONFERENCE OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS; AND

4 (IV) ONE INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATED BY THE MARYLAND ONSITE  
5 WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION.

6 (2) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

7 (I) AT LEAST SIX SHALL BE ON-SITE WASTEWATER  
8 PROFESSIONALS CURRENTLY LICENSED OR CERTIFIED BY THE STATE OR A LOCAL  
9 GOVERNMENT; AND

10 (II) TWO SHALL BE CONSUMER MEMBERS.

11 (3) (I) 1. SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS  
12 SUBPARAGRAPH AND SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, OF THE  
13 ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

14 A. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED MASTER  
15 INSTALLER;

16 B. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED MASTER  
17 PUMPER;

18 C. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED MASTER  
19 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PROVIDER;

20 D. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE A CERTIFIED DESIGNER; AND

21 E. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED MASTER  
22 PROPERTY TRANSFER INSPECTOR.

23 2. A SINGLE BOARD MEMBER MAY SATISFY UP TO TWO  
24 OF THE PROFESSIONAL LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION MEMBERSHIP  
25 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH.

26 (II) OF THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS  
27 OF THE BOARD:

28 1. AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE FROM THE AREA THAT  
29 CONSISTS OF ALLEGANY COUNTY, FREDERICK COUNTY, GARRETT COUNTY, AND  
30 WASHINGTON COUNTY;

1                   2.     AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE FROM THE AREA THAT  
2     CONSISTS OF BALTIMORE CITY, BALTIMORE COUNTY, CARROLL COUNTY,  
3     HARFORD COUNTY, HOWARD COUNTY, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY;

4                   3.     AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE FROM THE AREA THAT  
5     CONSISTS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY;

6                   4.     AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE FROM THE AREA THAT  
7     CONSISTS OF CAROLINE COUNTY, CECIL COUNTY, DORCHESTER COUNTY, KENT  
8     COUNTY, QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, SOMERSET COUNTY, TALBOT COUNTY,  
9     WICOMICO COUNTY, AND WORCESTER COUNTY; AND

10                  5.     AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE FROM THE AREA THAT  
11     CONSISTS OF CALVERT COUNTY, CHARLES COUNTY, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTY.

12                  (4)    EACH CONSUMER MEMBER OF THE BOARD:

13                    (I)    SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC;

14                    (II)   MAY NOT BE A LICENSEE OR OTHERWISE BE SUBJECT TO  
15     REGULATION BY THE BOARD;

16                    (III)   MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR  
17     THE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD; AND

18                    (IV)   MAY NOT, WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE APPOINTMENT, HAVE  
19     HAD A FINANCIAL INTEREST IN OR HAVE RECEIVED COMPENSATION FROM A PERSON  
20     REGULATED BY THE BOARD.

21                  (B)    WHILE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD, A CONSUMER MEMBER MAY NOT:

22                    (1)    HAVE A FINANCIAL INTEREST IN OR RECEIVE COMPENSATION  
23     FROM A PERSON REGULATED BY THE BOARD; OR

24                    (2)    GRADE AN EXAMINATION GIVEN BY OR FOR THE BOARD.

25                  (C)    BEFORE TAKING OFFICE, EACH APPOINTEE TO THE BOARD SHALL TAKE  
26     THE OATH REQUIRED BY ARTICLE I, § 9 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.

27                  (D)    (1)    THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.

28                    (2)    A MEMBER MAY SERVE TWO TERMS CONSECUTIVELY.

1           **(3) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE**  
2 **TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ON JULY 1, 2021.**

3           **(4) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**  
4 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

5           **(5) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**  
6 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**  
7 **QUALIFIES.**

8           **(E) THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE A MEMBER FOR INCOMPETENCE OR**  
9 **MISCONDUCT.**

10 **9-11A-07.**

11           **(A) THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL DESIGNATE A CHAIR.**

12           **(B) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE MEANS OF THE ELECTION OF**  
13 **OFFICERS.**

14 **9-11A-08.**

15           **(A) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS THEN SERVING ON THE BOARD IS A**  
16 **QUORUM.**

17           **(B) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF ITS**  
18 **MEETINGS.**

19           **(C) EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR**  
20 **EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN**  
21 **THE STATE BUDGET.**

22           **(D) THE BOARD MAY EMPLOY A STAFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE**  
23 **BUDGET.**

24 **9-11A-09.**

25           **(A) THE BOARD SHALL:**

26           **(1) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE**  
27 **ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE,**  
28 **INCLUDING:**

1                   **(I) LICENSING PROCEDURES AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE**  
2 **FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

3                   1.     **MASTER INSTALLER AND JOURNEY INSTALLER;**

4                   2.     **MASTER ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROPERTY**  
5 **TRANSFER INSPECTOR AND JOURNEY ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROPERTY TRANSFER**  
6 **INSPECTOR;**

7                   3.     **MASTER PUMPER AND JOURNEY PUMPER; AND**

8                   4.     **MASTER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROVIDER**  
9 **AND JOURNEY OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROVIDER;**

10                  **(II) CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR**  
11 **THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

12                  1.     **DESIGNER;**

13                  2.     **ADVANCED TREATMENT INSTALLER;**

14                  3.     **MOUND INSTALLER;**

15                  4.     **DRIP DISPERSAL INSTALLER;**

16                  5.     **PUMP DISPERSAL SYSTEM INSTALLER;**

17                  6.     **ADVANCED TREATMENT OPERATION AND**  
18 **MAINTENANCE PROVIDER;**

19                  7.     **ADVANCED TREATMENT UNIT PUMPER;**

20                  8.     **ADVANCED TREATMENT PROPERTY TRANSFER**  
21 **INSPECTOR; AND**

22                  9.     **ANY OTHER CATEGORY ASSOCIATED WITH A SPECIFIC**  
23 **ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY; AND**

24                  **(III) MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ANY PROCESSES, PROCEDURES,**  
25 **TECHNIQUES, AND MATERIALS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPER DESIGN,**  
26 **ACCEPTABLE INSTALLATION, ADEQUATE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,**  
27 **INCLUDING PUMPING OR REPAIR, AND PROPERTY TRANSFER INSPECTION OF AN**  
28 **ON-SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM THAT IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE PERMITTED UNDER §**  
29 **9-323 OF THIS TITLE;**



1           **(2) REVIEW REGULATIONS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO**  
2 **CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

3           **(3) ESTABLISH A CODE OF ETHICS PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT**  
4 **FOR:**

5                   **(I) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD; AND**

6                   **(II) INDIVIDUALS LICENSED BY THE BOARD.**

7           **(B) THE BOARD SHALL:**

8                   **(1) CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

9                   **(2) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2023, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE**  
10 **DEPARTMENT FOR ESTABLISHING THE LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION**  
11 **PROCEDURES SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION;**

12                   **(3) COLLECT AND ACCOUNT FOR THE FEES PROVIDED FOR UNDER**  
13 **THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

14                   **(4) KEEP A CURRENT RECORD OF ALL INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES**  
15 **LICENSED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

16 **9-11A-10.**

17           **(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD, SHALL**  
18 **SET BY REGULATION REASONABLE FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF**  
19 **LICENSES AND OTHER SERVICES THAT THE BOARD PROVIDES.**

20                   **(2) THE FEES SHALL BE SET TO PRODUCE FUNDS TO APPROXIMATE**  
21 **THE COSTS OF MAINTAINING THE BOARD.**

22           **(B) THE BOARD SHALL PUBLISH A SCHEDULE OF THE FEES.**

23           **(C) THE BOARD SHALL PAY ALL FUNDS COLLECTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**  
24 **INTO THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER §**  
25 **9-11A-11 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

26 **9-11A-11.**

27           **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER**  
28 **PROFESSIONALS FUND.**

29           **(B) THERE IS AN ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS FUND.**

1           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO MAINTAIN THE**  
2 **BOARD.**

3           **(D) THE BOARD SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

4           **(E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**  
5 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

6                   **(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,**  
7 **AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

8           **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

9                   **(1) ALL FEES, PENALTIES, AND FINES COLLECTED UNDER THIS**  
10 **SUBTITLE;**

11                   **(2) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**

12                   **(3) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND;**

13                   **(4) DONATIONS TO THE FUND; AND**

14                   **(5) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**  
15 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

16           **(G) THE FUND SHALL BE USED ONLY TO MAINTAIN THE BOARD AND**  
17 **IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

18           **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**  
19 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

20                   **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**  
21 **THE FUND.**

22           **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**  
23 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

24           **(J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND TO MAINTAIN THE BOARD OR**  
25 **IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT**  
26 **INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE**  
27 **APPROPRIATED FOR THE BOARD.**

28 **9-11A-12.**

1           **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR, THE BOARD SHALL PREPARE AND**  
2 **SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SECRETARY ON:**

3           **(1) THE STATUS OF THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS**  
4 **FUND;**

5           **(2) REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FROM THE ON-SITE**  
6 **WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS FUND;**

7           **(3) THE EFFICIENCY OF THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**  
8 **DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

9           **(4) COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**  
10 **DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

11           **(5) BASED ON THE FACTORS SPECIFIED IN ITEMS (1) THROUGH (4) OF**  
12 **THIS SECTION, THE NECESSITY TO REVIEW AND ADJUST THE FEES SET BY THE**  
13 **DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION.**

14 **9-11A-13. RESERVED.**

15 **9-11A-14. RESERVED.**

16                                   **PART III. LICENSING.**

17 **9-11A-15.**

18           **(A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**  
19 **AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS**  
20 **SUBTITLE BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PERFORM ON-SITE WASTEWATER**  
21 **SERVICES IN THE STATE.**

22           **(2) (I) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO, AS OF JANUARY 1, 2021, HOLDS A**  
23 **LICENSE, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATION TO PERFORM ON-SITE WASTEWATER**  
24 **SERVICES IN THE STATE MAY CONTINUE TO PERFORM ON-SITE WASTEWATER**  
25 **SERVICES UNTIL THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS ARE ESTABLISHED BY THE**  
26 **DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION IF THE INDIVIDUAL:**

27                           **1. ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2021, PAYS TO THE**  
28 **DEPARTMENT A FEE OF \$150; AND**

29                           **2. EVERY 2 YEARS THEREAFTER UNTIL THE**  
30 **DEPARTMENT SETS FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9-11A-10 OF THIS SUBTITLE,**  
31 **PAYS TO THE DEPARTMENT A RENEWAL FEE OF \$150.**

1                   **(II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY ALL FUNDS COLLECTED**  
2 **UNDER PARAGRAPH (2)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION INTO THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER**  
3 **PROFESSIONALS FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 9-11A-11 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

4           **(B) TO QUALIFY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL MEET THE**  
5 **REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION.**

6           **(C) TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL:**

7                   **(1) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD AN APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE**  
8 **BOARD PROVIDES; AND**

9                   **(2) PAY TO THE BOARD THE REQUIRED APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE**  
10 **DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION.**

11           **(D) A BUSINESS PERFORMING ON-SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES OR**  
12 **CONTRACTING TO PERFORM ON-SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES THAT ARE**  
13 **REGULATED BY THE BOARD MUST HAVE AN EMPLOYEE OR OWNER LICENSED BY THE**  
14 **BOARD.**

15           **(E) A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS**  
16 **SUBTITLE IS VALID FOR 2 YEARS.**

17 **9-11A-16.**

18           **SUBJECT TO THE HEARING REQUIREMENTS IN § 9-11A-17 OF THIS SUBTITLE,**  
19 **THE BOARD MAY DENY A LICENSE TO ANY APPLICANT, REPRIMAND ANY LICENSEE,**  
20 **OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE IF THE APPLICANT OR LICENSEE:**

21                   **(1) VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY**  
22 **REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;**

23                   **(2) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY OBTAINS OR ATTEMPTS TO**  
24 **OBTAIN A LICENSE FOR THE APPLICANT OR LICENSEE OR FOR ANOTHER;**

25                   **(3) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY USES A LICENSE; OR**

26                   **(4) COMMITS ANY GROSS NEGLIGENCE, INCOMPETENCE, OR**  
27 **MISCONDUCT WHILE PROVIDING ON-SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES.**

28 **9-11A-17.**

1 (A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE  
2 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, BEFORE THE BOARD TAKES ANY FINAL ACTION  
3 UNDER § 9-11A-16 OF THIS SUBTITLE IT SHALL GIVE THE INDIVIDUAL AGAINST  
4 WHOM THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING BEFORE  
5 THE BOARD.

6 (B) THE BOARD SHALL GIVE NOTICE AND HOLD THE HEARING IN  
7 ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

8 (C) THE BOARD MAY ADMINISTER OATHS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY  
9 PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SECTION.

10 (D) IF, AFTER DUE NOTICE, THE APPLICANT OR LICENSEE AGAINST WHOM  
11 THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED FAILS OR REFUSES TO APPEAR, THE BOARD MAY  
12 HEAR AND DETERMINE THE MATTER.

13 (E) ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY A FINAL DECISION OF THE BOARD IN A  
14 CONTESTED CASE, AS DEFINED IN § 10-202 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,  
15 MAY TAKE AN APPEAL AS ALLOWED IN §§ 10-222 AND 10-223 OF THE STATE  
16 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

17 9-11A-18. RESERVED.

18 9-11A-19. RESERVED.

19 **PART IV. PROHIBITED ACTS; PENALTIES.**

20 9-11A-20.

21 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 9-11A-15(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, AN  
22 INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT PERFORM, ATTEMPT TO PERFORM, OR OFFER TO PERFORM  
23 ON-SITE WASTEWATER SERVICES UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED BY THE  
24 BOARD.

25 (B) A LICENSE MAY NOT BE BORROWED, RENTED, OR TRANSFERRED TO  
26 ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL.

27 9-11A-21.

28 (A) INSTEAD OF OR IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTIES AUTHORIZED  
29 UNDER THIS TITLE, THE BOARD MAY IMPOSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY ON A  
30 PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 PER  
31 DAY FOR ALL VIOLATIONS CITED ON A SINGLE DAY.

1           **(B) IN SETTING THE AMOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY, THE**  
 2 **BOARD SHALL CONSIDER:**

3                   **(1) THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE VIOLATION;**

4                   **(2) THE HARM CAUSED BY THE VIOLATION;**

5                   **(3) THE GOOD FAITH OF THE VIOLATOR;**

6                   **(4) ANY HISTORY OF PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS BY THE VIOLATOR; AND**

7                   **(5) ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS.**

8           **(C) IF A VIOLATOR FAILS TO PAY AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY WITHIN 90**  
 9 **DAYS AFTER THE IMPOSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY BY THE BOARD,**  
 10 **THE MATTER SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT IN THE**  
 11 **DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE**  
 12 **ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY.**

13           **(D) ANY PENALTIES COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID INTO**  
 14 **THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER §**  
 15 **9-11A-11 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

16                                   **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

17 6-226.

18           (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless  
 19 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the  
 20 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the  
 21 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to  
 22 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General  
 23 Fund of the State.

24                                   (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply  
 25 to the following funds:

26                                   122. the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund;

27 [and]

28                                   123. the Racing and Community Development Facilities Fund;

29 **AND**

30                                   **124. THE ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS FUND.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State Board of On–Site  
2 Wastewater Professionals shall be fully operational on or before June 1, 2022.

3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial  
4 members of the State Board of On–Site Wastewater Professionals shall expire as follows:

- 5 (1) three members in 2023;
- 6 (2) three members in 2024; and
- 7 (3) three members in 2025.

8 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before July 1, 2024, the  
9 Department of the Environment, in consultation with the State Board of On–Site  
10 Wastewater Professionals, shall adopt regulations to implement Section 1 of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before July 1, 2025, all  
12 individuals who perform on–site wastewater services in the State shall be licensed by the  
13 State Board of On–Site Wastewater Professionals.

14 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2021.