

Chapter 562

**(House Bill 992)**

AN ACT concerning

**Environment – Delegated Authorities – Well and Septic Program Permits**

FOR the purpose of requiring a local health department or county government with certain delegated authority to submit, on or before a certain date, a schedule of review times for certain well and septic program permits to the Department of the Environment for approval; requiring a local health department or county government to submit well and septic program permit data to the Department for review at a certain frequency under certain circumstances; and generally relating to local health departments or county governments and well and septic program permits.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 9–1114

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

**Article – Environment**

**9–1114.**

**(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

**(2) “DELEGATED AUTHORITY” MEANS A LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR COUNTY GOVERNMENT TO WHICH THE DEPARTMENT HAS DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER A WELL AND SEPTIC PROGRAM.**

**(3) “WELL AND SEPTIC PROGRAM” MEANS A PROGRAM UNDER WHICH A DELEGATED AUTHORITY ISSUES PERMITS FOR:**

**(I) THE INSTALLATION OF ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS; AND**

**(II) THE CONSTRUCTION OF WELLS.**

**(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2024, A DELEGATED AUTHORITY SHALL SUBMIT A SCHEDULE OF REVIEW TIMES FOR WELL AND SEPTIC PROGRAM PERMITS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL.**

**(C) BEGINNING 3 MONTHS AFTER THE SCHEDULE SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT, AND EVERY 3 MONTHS THEREAFTER, A DELEGATED AUTHORITY SHALL SUBMIT WELL AND SEPTIC PROGRAM PERMIT DATA TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR REVIEW.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2024.

**Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.**