

SB0835/803724/1

BY: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 835
(First Reading File Bill)

On page 2, after line 13, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) (1) The Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Maryland Association of County Health Officers, the Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors, the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Association of Counties, and the Department of Information Technology, shall study and make recommendations on modernizing IT systems to connect local health department environmental programs, local governments, and the Department of the Environment in relation to well and septic program permits.

(2) The study shall address:

(i) the backend interoperability of existing systems that allow local health departments or local governments to share relevant data with the Department of the Environment;

(ii) the optimal design of a modernized system that includes front-facing dashboards to enable members of the public and State agencies to track permit processing status;

(iii) the potential timeline for system modernization;

(iv) the estimated costs of system modernization; and

(v) the availability of federal funds to match State investment.

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(b) (1) On or before December 1, 2024, the Department of the Environment shall submit an interim report of its findings and any recommendations for legislative or administrative changes to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

(2) On or before December 1, 2025, the Department of the Environment shall submit a final report of its findings and any recommendations for legislative or administrative changes to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.”;

and in line 14, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”.