



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2083		DATE: 2/13/2024
COMMITTEE: Local Government		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 11:53 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am in Support of this Bill. Cap the Fee and Charges. To see more of my On the Record Testimony, Please view the House archived under "Media" and the Committee Hearing.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CAMMY WILLETT		PHONE NUMBER: 443-567-3536	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GOOD NEIGHBOR SOIL EVALUATORS, LLC		TITLE: PHD SOIL SCIENTIST, LICENSED SOIL EVALUATOR, LICEN	
ADDRESS: 2602 E HWY 124			
CITY: HALLSVILLE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65255
EMAIL: goodneighborse@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2024 12:57 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a constituent, I am writing to encourage you to support HB 2083 that modifies provisions to sewage disposal. This bill will enable positive changes to our industry state-wide. By phasing out soil percolation (perc) tests for onsite wastewater treatment systems, Missouri will join other states in raising the professional bar on examining soils through morphology prior to installing these septic systems. Soil morphology evaluations are effectively used and many counties only accept these prior to permitting a septic system installation. Results of perc tests are dependent on soil moisture status, and can therefore change depending on recent weather. Consequently, perc test results are often insufficient for correctly identifying the appropriate wastewater system for a given area. This can lead to costly system failures, lowered property values, as well as create public health hazards and nuisances. In addition, changing the regulation to allow the Department of Health to reasonably adjust permit fees based on the cost will enable the Department to continue their role of protecting public health and the environment. The current permit fee of \$90 does not cover costs for personnel to travel for inspections. As a wastewater professional, I depend on the Health Department for processing permits, approving reports, and inspecting wastewater systems. Under-funding this work negatively impacts my business, as well as compromises the State's capacity to prevent public health hazards from mishandled on-site wastewater. While many Missourians have access to municipal sewage disposal, there are a growing number of Missouri residents served by on-site wastewater systems. Keeping these systems safe and functional is a benefit to all Missourians because we ALL live downstream of someone.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER EVANS NOTHSTINE		PHONE NUMBER: 660-224-9043	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TALL GUY WASTE WATER SOLUTIONS & SOILS, LLC; MSO BOARD MEMBER		TITLE: SOIL EVALUATOR AND ONSITE WASTEWATER DESIGN ENGINE	
ADDRESS: 609 W 1ST STREET			
CITY: MARYVILLE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64468
EMAIL: chris@tallguysoils.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 8:55 AM	

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After working twenty years in the onsite industry as a design engineer and installer with Scott Gann Construction, INC (St. Joseph, MO), I started my own consulting business in June 2022'. While the wastewater industry has progressed in the last twenty years, this bill is important to keep that momentum and move our Missouri industry forward in professionalism for our customers, your constituents. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LJ ATKISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lj3395z@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2024 7:51 PM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
SOIL MORPHOLOGY, CONDUCTED BY A SOIL SCIENTIST, WILL HELP AVOID ONSITE SYSTEM
FAILURES.LJ ATKISON**



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD HAMBY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: richard.hamby@bentonhealth.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 9:51 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Dear Representative ,In my time as a local regulator for onsite wastewater I have seen my share of soil reports and testing to include failed systems that often circle back to originating at a perc test. One thing is clear, and that is the fact that soil morphologies offer a much more accurate view into soil capabilities when we are looking at sizing or determining an onsite wastewater system with protecting clean water and human health in mind. In addition to perc testing being subjective to seasonal influence, the test itself does not reveal restrictive or limiting layers, to include the water tables that we work hard to maintain vertical separation from during installation. If we are in fact supporting protecting water and public health then I am absolute in saying that percolation testing must go away. Sustainability will be a discussion that we all have over the coming decades if not sooner, and we can take one small step here to protect water as Missouri communities grow in size and demand, further protecting a valuable resource as drought continues to challenge residents in the Midwest. While perc testing does offer some advantages, they are not pertinent to protection of our communities or resources. Rather, perc testing can be readily available in the absence of soil evaluators in rural Missouri counties. There are not many evaluators available in comparison to demand. In many cases the perc tester on site is the installer completing the system. I do not question everyone's integrity, but I do find relying on an individuals word who stands to gain financially to be a problem. This is especially true when a perc test likely offers a better false loading rate which leads to a cheaper system that the honest man cannot compete with. This offers that installer an additional unfair advantage over competition since they must also wait on a soil morphology report in order to submit an application, That period is often seven to ten additional days. New installers cannot compete since perc training and new licensing no longer takes place. It may be worth having a discussion on how to support growing the field of soil morphology and evaluation by expanding institutions offering program support, while streamlining this process into a true area of study for certificate and/or degree seeking individuals. If this exists currently then I am not aware. I do not believe that reducing the requirements for licensure would be beneficial but having a singular focus in a training program that is career minded would. This is a discussion for a later date, but we do need more evaluators and we need them to be masters at their craft. As a professional in the field, I believe that Perc Testing is bad for our communities and our environment. This practice challenges the efficacy of regulatory agency guidelines, purpose, and code, while simply being bad for the industry over all. As we grow in knowledge it is our responsibility to take what we have learned and apply it to our practices so we can better protect our communities and resources. Now is the time. Please help protect our citizens and resources by supporting this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EXCELLENCE		TITLE: LOBBYIST
ADDRESS: 213 EAST CAPITOL AVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: sgh@molobby.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 8:22 AM

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Missouri Center for Public Health Excellence supports HB2083. This bill removes old administrative burdens and would allow for LPHAs to administer the up to date standards when safely and effectively installing or altering residential septic tank systems.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SETH A COGGIN, PE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sethcoggin@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2024 3:59 PM
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I believe this bill will be good for our industry as a whole.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TAMMY TRANTHAM		PHONE NUMBER: 417-631-4027	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI SMALLFLOWS ORGANIZATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 2733 E BATTLEFIELD #132			
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65804
EMAIL: contact@mosmallflows.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2024 2:43 PM	

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Committee Chairman Falkner and Committee Members: Thank you for the time to speak with you today. My name is Tammy Trantham and I am the Executive Director of the Missouri Smallflows Organization (MSO). We represent over 500 members that work in the onsite wastewater industry. Our association is dedicated to promoting our professionals to have the skills needed to adequately install, inspect and maintain onsite wastewater treatment systems otherwise known as septic systems. On behalf of the Missouri Smallflows Organization Board of Directors, I am speaking to encourage you to support HB 2083 that modifies provisions to sewage disposal. This bill will enable positive changes to our industry state-wide. By phasing out soil percolation tests for onsite wastewater treatment systems, Missouri will join other states in raising the professional bar on examining soils through morphology prior to installing these septic systems. Soil morphology evaluations are effectively used and many counties only accept these prior to permitting a septic system installation. In addition, changing the regulation to allow the Department of Health to adjust permit fees to reasonable fees based on the cost will enable the Department to continue their role of protecting public health and environment. The current permit fee of \$90 does not cover costs for personnel to travel for inspections. By enabling the Department to raise the fee in accordance with costs, it will promote more counties to build their own regulatory departments too. This in turn will help our professionals since the turnaround for permit applications will be better. Thank you for your time and consideration. Your support to promote HB 2083 will be helpful for our industry and the protection of Missouri's water resources. Thank you.