

FOR the purpose of creating the Innovative and Alternative Septic System Grant Program in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the management and supervision of this Act; authorizing the Department to make septic tank grants to certain political subdivisions; authorizing the political subdivisions to make septic tank grants to certain property owners; establishing certain eligibility criteria for the grants; granting the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene certain powers and duties relating to the Program; providing for the administration of the Program; providing for the use of certain funds for the Program; and generally relating to the Innovative and Alternative Septic System Grant Program.

BY adding to

Article - Health - Environmental
Section 9-1401 through 9-~~1407~~ 9-1406, inclusive, to be under
the new subtitle "Subtitle 14. Innovative and
Alternative Septic System Grant Program"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1982 Volume and 1983 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In 1972 the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene revised its rules and regulations to require that, in the subdivision of land, the percolation testing for a septic system in soil with severe or moderate limitations may be conducted during the prescribed wet season of any given year; and

WHEREAS, Before 1972, many of the septic systems constructed during the building boom of the 1960's and 1970's that had passed percolation tests, which were given at any time during the year, had failed prematurely; and

WHEREAS, These septic systems were installed on approved land or on land that was approved or purchased in anticipation for housing, development, and construction that was no longer able to be instituted; and

WHEREAS, The only way to bring these septic systems up to acceptable standards is to modify or improve the design, construction, or equipment of a deficient or inadequate septic system with innovative, new, or alternative technology; and

WHEREAS, Since community sewer service does not extend presently to areas that were previously recorded in 1972 for unimproved lands, the only way to allow development is to modify or improve the design, construction, or equipment of a septic system through innovative, new, or alternative technology; and