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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 7247

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING SEWAGE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the majority leaders' roundtable group on affordable housing established under PA 23-207 (see BACKGROUND) to convene a working group to assess and make recommendations on (1) regulatory requirements for sewage disposal, including nitrogen discharge limits and their impact on housing development, public health, and the environment, and (2) balancing the costs of housing development and a risk-based approach to protecting public health and the environment.

The working group must include the energy and environmental protection (DEEP), housing, and public health (DPH) commissioners or their designees, and subject matter experts, including at least one representative each from the following entities in the state: (1) a residential construction trade association and (2) associations representing municipal planners, municipal health directors, septic system installers, and professional engineers and soil scientists.

By February 1, 2026, the working group must report to the DPH commissioner and the Environment, Housing, and Public Health committees.

Additionally, PA 23-207 transferred regulatory authority from DEEP to DPH over small community sewerage systems and household and small commercial subsurface sewage disposal systems with daily capacities of up to 10,000 gallons. Under current law, DPH must amend its regulations by July 1, 2025, to effectuate the transfer.

The bill instead requires the DPH commissioner to post notice of her

intent to amend these regulations on the eRegulations system by July 1, 2026. Before doing so, she must consult with the working group and consider its recommendations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Affordable Housing Roundtable Group***

PA 23-207 established the majority leaders' 24-member roundtable group and requires it to study various topics, such as (1) the state's existing affordable housing policies and programs, (2) successful models and best practices in other states or regions to inform potential policy recommendations, and (3) the possibility of converting state properties into affordable housing developments. The group must annually report its findings and recommendations to the Housing Committee.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 23      Nay 9      (03/28/2025)