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Date: March 6, 2023

To: Chairman Dibble, and the Transportation Committee

Re: SF 843, Septic Pumping Truck Exemption from Overweight Limitations

Thank you for your consideration of Senate File 843, septic pumping trucks being exempt from overweight limitations inclusion in the Omnibus bill this year.

There are a few items I would like you to consider when it comes to the septic industry and protecting the homeowners and businesses in our State, not only for health reasons, but for financial reasons. These are real situations that have occurred because of overweight permits.

- 1) It's 2:00 AM and a very loud alarm goes off in your home – as loud as a fire alarm – alerting you to the fact that your septic system is overfull and needing attention before it backs up sewage into your basement. You call your septic company for service. They tell you, "I'm sorry, but we have to wait 6 hours before City Hall is open so we can get an overweight permit." In the meantime, you wait and hope for the best.
- 2) It's Friday night at 5:00 pm. You own a retail shop that has a septic holding tank. Your septic alarm sounds off. You call your septic company for immediate service before sewage starts backing up into the store (if it isn't backing up already). They tell you, "I'm sorry, but you will have to wait until Monday morning when City Hall opens so we can get an overweight permit." They must shut down their shop until Monday.
- 3) You live in the City of Dayton. It's Saturday morning, and you wake up to find sewage in your basement and the level is rising. You call your septic pumper for immediate service. Your pumper calls the police department at the City to explain the situation, since City Hall is closed, and ask for permission to go on a posted roadway. The pumper promises that on Monday morning the permit will be purchased and paid for. The police department denies the request and says, (and I quote), "...and if we catch you going down that road, you WILL get pulled over and there will be a fine." Your septic pumper calls the emergency number for city maintenance/utilities and explains the same scenario. They tell the pumper they will have to get permission from the city police department. You now have to go rent a hotel room(s) for the weekend for your family, as well as call a cleaning company to begin work on cleaning up the contamination on Monday.

- 4) You live in the City of Greenfield. Your septic is backing up into your home. You call your septic pumper. The pumping company informs you that they will have to be reimbursed the \$500 cost for the permit from the city, as well as the cost of pumping the septic, \$350. You don't have the money to pay the fees, so you wait; living in your home until spring weight postings lift and a pumper can come to pump the tanks. You have been living like you are camping for two months; no toilet usage, no showering or bathing; no washing clothes in the washing machine; washing dishes by hand and dumping the water outside on the ground. At this point, the sewage in the basement is toxic, your family is sick, and the damage to your home might be irreparable.

These are just a few real life examples of what we have encountered over the years when spring weight postings are on the roadways.

Because of the health, safety and financial hardships this imposes on all the homeowners and businesses who rely on private septic systems, we ask that the transportation committee consider inclusion into the Omnibus bill.

Thank you for your time.

Lorianne Ende
Lorianne Ende, Owner & Manager