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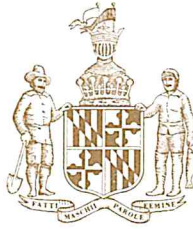
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MINORITY WHIP

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Finance Committee

Executive Nominations Committee



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*The Senate of Maryland*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 25, 2020

Chairman Paul G. Pinsky

Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

Senate Bill 793 Natural Resources – Limited Fishing Guide License – Propulsion of Boats and Vessels

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 361 last year allowing individuals that possess limited fishing guide licenses to guide anglers in up to three vessels propelled by oars or paddles. Senate Bill 793 provides a simple clarification to last year's legislation by replacing "oars and paddles" with "human power."

This clarification is necessary to ensure the inclusivity of disabled individuals. If an individual is unable to use their upper body to operate a vessel using a paddle or an oar, alternative human-powered vessels may be necessary. For example, a disabled veteran that does not have use of their upper body may be able to operate a pedal propelled kayak using their feet. Without the clarifying language provided in Senate Bill 793, the current law would not permit a guide to offer this type of alternative.

I ask the committee's favorable consideration of Senate Bill 793.