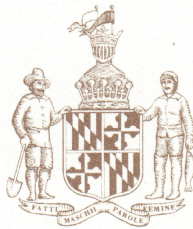


**JOHNNY MAUTZ**  
*Legislative District 37B*  
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,  
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Economic Matters Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 4, 2020

Re: HB1353 - Natural Resources - Oyster Severance Tax - Increase

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HB1353 increases the severance tax – from \$1 per bushel to \$2 per bushel. This fee is levied on a per bushel basis for oyster harvested from the Maryland Public Fishery.

There is an amendment that would also increase the oyster export tax from .30 cents to \$1, assessed on a per bushel basis.

Revenue from both increases is directed to oyster shell committees and oyster management at the Department of Natural Resources.

Both proposed increases have been endorsed by the DNR Tidal Fish Advisory Committee.

Thank you for considering HB1353. I request a favorable report from the Committee.