

SB0830 (HB 1228)

FAVORABLE WITH AMMENDMENTS

It is with hopeful hesitation that I am in support of SB 0830/ HB1228 with amendments. My time served on the Oyster Advisory Commission and in recent conversations with stakeholders and the bill's sponsors have left me hopeful that I will not be dissatisfied with a bill that is still "in concept." I hope my trust is not misplaced.

I will continue to ask that this bill acknowledge the need for shell to be returned as *naked shell* and *spat on shell* onto the public fishing areas from where it came.

Keeping oyster shell in the state of Maryland is the goal of our industry.

The return of Maryland shucking houses is a goal of our industry. We need to incentivize the return of shucking houses in our state.

If the various stakeholders and bill sponsors will agree to continue to work together, I hope the outcome will be a bill that supports a wild oyster fishery, oyster aquaculture, and oyster restoration.

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