

Testimony by
Grant Callery
SB 837
February 20, 2024

I am a homeowner at Deep Creek Lake in Garrett County and have owned there since 1993. I also serve on the Board of the Property Owners Association of Deep Creek Lake. I also have a residence in Montgomery County.

I fully support this legislation for several reasons.

- The reduction of lake levels is reasonable and will only take the lake down within the existing rule bands.
- The growth of shoreline grasses is causing problems for dock owners, boaters, and swimmers in the lake and reduction of water levels will retard the growth of these grasses which cannot be killed in other ways because they are “native” to DCL.
- Brookville, the large multi-national owner of the dam and the hydroelectric rights has refused to reduce the water levels as has been done in the past without any evidence that doing so will result in their inability to accomplish releases for electrical generation, whitewater rafting or fishery depletion.
- The lake is a significant economic driver for Garrett County from both a tax revenue and spending perspective. Anything that makes it less attractive to vacationers and potential homeowners endangers the County’s ability to meet the needs of its citizens.

Please support this legislation and make these views a part of the legislative record.

Thank you.

Grant Callery