

Support for HB 1284
Environment and Transportation Committee

Dear Delegates Terrasa, Lehman, and Ruth:

As a concerned citizen of Maryland, I am writing to express my support for the Wetlands and Waterways Program - Stream Restoration Projects bill. I first learned about the terrible damage to waterways in Howard County during my Environmental Science G/T Seminar at Burleigh Manor Middle School, and I feel that this bill needs to be passed because these "stream restoration" projects are hurting the environment.

From research, I have learned that when people try to "restore" the river banks they just end up cutting down a bunch of trees which just makes the river banks fall apart even more. Also, I find it quite unfair that the people who do these projects can avoid the conflicts of cutting down trees.

Trees are a very important element in helping stop climate change. I am pleased that HB 1284 calls for telling the community in advance about upcoming projects and that it requires 2 virtual public hearings on every project. Citizens need to have an opportunity to understand the impacts of stream restorations and challenge them if necessary. I also support the bill because MED would have to update information on each project so the community could see it on their website.

On behalf of the children of Maryland, who will inherit the environment you leave for us, I support HB 1284.

Signed,
Julianna Siegel
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