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Date: February 19, 2024

To: Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce & Committee Members
Environmental and Transportation Committee
Room 251
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

From: Jim Mullin, Executive Director, Maryland Oystermen's Association
Re: Support With an Amendment for HB-613 Recreational Catching of Oysters or Clams Requirements

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce & Committee Members

The Maryland Oystermen Association's wishes to support HB-613 as it provides accountability and transparency in the recreational harvest of oysters and/or clams. We respectfully proposed the following amendment. "That a portion of the proposed application fee be used to replenish the public oyster bar with either oyster shells and/or seed where the recreational harvest may take place".

We feel it's important whomever may engage in the harvest of shellfish in Maryland waters that some form of replenishment take place so as to ensure that the harvest areas remain vibrant and productive through continued support from all harvesters, commercial and recreational.

We respectfully request a favorable recommendation of HB-613 with our proposed amendment. Our association is most appreciative of your leadership, guidance and representation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Mullin,

MOA BOD Members

Jim Mullin

Executive Director

Bunky Chance

Jimmy Kline

Jimmy Reihl

Chuckie White

Wayne Wilson

**"The Bay's A Big Place
And There's Room For
Everybody"**