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To Whom It May Concern,

I am against HB0910.

I don't currently live in the area but I consider Western Maryland my home away from home. I grew up in Takoma Park, Maryland and worked on the Youghiogheny River during many summers during my teenage and early adulthood years. I also attended Frostburg State University for 4 years and graduated in 2007. Throughout all of that time, the Upper Yough was an invaluable resource and provided my primary source of entertainment and community. As a result, I spent a huge amount of time and money in Friendsville, Deep Creek and the surrounding area. I have introduced countless friends to the area over the years as well.

While I have since moved to Washington State, I still visit Western Maryland at least twice a year to visit the Yough and the community that the river fosters. I am very concerned to learn of the proposed legislation because of the potential affect it could have on late summer and fall releases from Deep Creek Lake. These releases are vital to the local and surrounding economy. I have numerous friends who have moved to Western Maryland in recent years, just to be close to the Upper Yough and they have all expressed their lack of interest to continue living in the area if they were unable to depend on consistent releases in the future.

I beg the assembly to consider the impact that jeopardizing the late summer and fall releases from Deep Creek could have on the community and economy. The Upper Yough is renowned all over the country as one of the best and most dependable places to visit for paddling fun whitewater during a time when most other rivers in the country are dry, and it would be tragic if we lost that resource and the vibrant community that comes with it.

Thank you,  
Max Blackburn

