

Senate Bill 168 – SUPPORT

**Senate Bill 168 – Environment
Crossover to House Committee on the Environment and Transportation
“Confined Aquatic Disposal Cells - Construction - Moratorium”**

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

I appreciate this opportunity to provide written testimony on SB 168 in this hearing. My name is Darrell Abed. I live in the community of Stoney Beach Council of Unit Owners in Northern Anne Arundel County. I am the President of the community Board of Directors and am opposed to the construction of the CAD due the following reasons:

- *Risk of dredging contaminated sediment near residential waterways and creation of turbidity in the water to in-water activities like swimming, boating, and watersports.*
- *Risk of contamination and turbidity to fishing and crabbing and ingestion of Patapsco caught seafood.*
- *Risk to benthic life (clams, oysters, worms) and submerged aquatic vegetation.*
- *Risk to waterfowl and prey birds that feed on fish in the Patapsco.*
- *Risk of impacts to waterway home values, businesses, and livelihoods.*
- *Risk of noise during 24/7 dredging operations less than a mile offshore.*
- *Noting overburden of communities to other existing nearby sources of pollution.*

The 4-year moratorium on the creation of Confined Aquatic Disposal Cells in MD will ensure that the MD Port Administration conducts the necessary research and creates mitigation plans to address the risks and allows more time for citizen, legislator, and community engagement before CAD would begin to be deployed in the Patapsco in June, 2029.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 168 and ask the Committee to give it a favorable report and move it to the House floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

Darrell Abed

Darrell Abed

Stoney Beach Council of Unit Owners (AKA Stoney Beach Condos)