

**SB0968\_DNR\_SUP\_ENT\_4-1-25.pdf**

Uploaded by: Emily Wilson

Position: FAV



Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Josh Kurtz, Secretary  
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

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April 1, 2025

**BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 968 – Third Reader**

**SHORT TITLE: Howard County - Patuxent River Wildland - Use of Motor Vehicles and Motorized Equipment Ho. Co. 5-25**

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: SUPPORT**

### **EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION**

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The Department supports the third reader version of SB 968 because, as amended, it would make the language related to the Patuxent River Wildland consistent with statutory language for other wildlands. It will also provide the Department with the express authority to use mechanized and motorized equipment for specific limited purposes such as maintaining emergency access.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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Maryland Wildlands are areas of state-owned land or water that have retained their wilderness character or contain rare or vanishing species of plant or animal life or similar features worthy of preservation. Designated by the Maryland General Assembly, they may include unique ecological, geological, scenic and contemplative recreational areas. State-designated Wildlands are managed for passive recreation only, including hiking, hunting, fishing, bird watching, horseback riding and nature interpretation. The Patuxent River Wildland is a total of 1,579 acres within Patuxent River State Park in Howard and Montgomery Counties.

### **BILL EXPLANATION**

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SB 968 as amended authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to use mechanical or motorized equipment for the purpose of retaining, maintaining, removing, or replacing existing trails; and removing, replacing, or disposing of nonnative species within the Patuxent River Wildland.

Contact: Emily Wilson, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services (Acting)  
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**HoCo 5-25 (SB575) House Committee Letter.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rebecca Doring

Position: FAV

SENATOR CLARENCE K. LAM  
SENATE CHAIR

MILLER SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
11 BLADEN STREET, ROOM 420  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SENATOR GUY GUZZONE  
SENATOR KATIE FRY HESTER



DELEGATE CHAO WU  
HOUSE CHAIR

DELEGATE NATALIE ZIEGLER  
HOUSE VICE CHAIR

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
6 BLADEN STREET, ROOM 217  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

DELEGATE VANESSA E. ATTERBEARY  
DELEGATE JESSICA FELDMARK  
DELEGATE PAM LANMAN GUZZONE  
DELEGATE TERRI L. HILL  
DELEGATE JEN TERRASA  
DELEGATE COURTNEY WATSON

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
HOWARD COUNTY DELEGATION

March 25, 2025  
The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation  
The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 250  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Korman,

The Howard County Delegation **voted in favor** of the following bill that will appear before your committee:

*SB968 -- Howard County – Patuxent River Wildland – Use of Motor Vehicles and Motorized Equipment*

We request a favorable committee report. Please contact the Howard County Delegation office at [hoc1@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:hoc1@mlis.state.md.us) if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Clarence K. Lam".

Senator Clarence K. Lam, MD, MPH  
Senate Chair  
Howard County Delegation

Chao Wu, PhD

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Chao Wu".

Delegate Chao Wu, PhD  
House Chair  
Howard County Delegation

# **Vote Sheet HoCo 5-25.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rebecca Doring

Position: FAV

# Howard County Delegation

Voting Record – 2025 Session

Bill Number: LR0909

HoCo Bill Number: Ho.Co. 5-25

Vote Date: 2/12/2025

Final Action: Passed

**Motion:**

- Favorable                       Favorable with Amendment                       Withdrawn

| Name                       | Yea | Nay | Abstain | Excused |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------|
| Lam, Clarence, Chair, Sen. |     |     |         |         |
| Wu, Chao, Chair, Del       | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Guzzone, Guy, Sen.         |     |     |         |         |
| Hester, Katie Fry, Sen.    |     |     |         |         |
| Atterbeary, Vanessa, Del.  | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Feldmark, Jessica, Del.    | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Guzzone, Pam, Del.         | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Hill, Terri, Del.          | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Terrasa, Jen, Del.         | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Watson, Courtney, Del.     | ✓   |     |         |         |
| Ziegler, Natalie, Del.     | ✓   |     |         |         |

Committee Reporter Musa Jafri