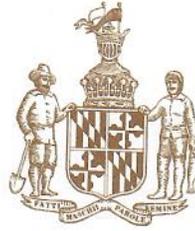


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Health and Human Services
Subcommittee

Joint Committees
Administrative, Executive,
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Audit

Children, Youth, and Families

Fair Practices and
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Pensions

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Testimony for Senate Bill 495
Bay Restoration Fund – Use of Funds – Municipal Wastewater Facilities
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
February 11, 2020

Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present Senate Bill 495 – Bay Restoration Fund – Use of Funds – Municipal Wastewater Facilities. This proposed legislation will allow projects to utilize Bay Restoration Funds to connect to waste water facilities that are in the process of upgrading to achieve enhanced nutrient removal (ENR) or biological nutrient removal (BNR) level treatment. Currently, projects can only utilize these funds once the upgrade has been completed.

This legislation came upon a request from the Town of Trappe. After this request, other projects in Dorchester County and Frederick County were identified that would benefit from this legislation. Each of these projects need to connect to waste water treatment facilities, but do not have the funds to do so. Until the facilities have been upgraded, these projects are unable to utilize Bay Restoration Funds. The projects are, effectively, halted until the waste water treatment facilities are upgraded.

This bill will allow projects to continue, while ensuring that they are connected to facilities that will achieve ENR or BNR capabilities.

I respectfully ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 495. Thank you.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Addie Eckardt".

Senator Addie Eckardt