

IN REPLY – Testimony for SB0582 From Robert A. Sutton, 166 Woodland Way, Swanton, MD 21561

To; EHandE Affairs Committee, 2/25/20 Hearing on SB0582

Committee members; I am a lifelong resident of Deep Creek Lake. My family has had property here since the 1950's and my wife and I have been on the lake since 1971. I have seen the lake change from a simple mountain lake to a bustling and busy resort. All of the changes have not been good! The lake is used much more than it used to be by boaters, kayakers, fishermen, skiers, swimmers, etc. The lake is ringed by expensive homes now. There is many worries about the future of this jewel such as shoreline erosion, SAV contamination, sewage spills, overcrowding, limited NRP presence to name a few. I have been involved in a volunteer capacity at Deep Creek for years as (1) President of Sky Valley Association (300 home HOA on the lake); (2) Director of the DCL Property Owners Association; (3) Member of the Watershed Educational Advisory Committee; and volunteer helping DNR with various projects.

The state allocates huge sums of money for the Bay but until recently with the passage of the first SLPRP fund very little went to the state lakes. These lakes are not natural – they are man made and as so they require maintenance to preserve them for the future. Investment now before a crisis occurs will save money in the long run. I urge you to pass the bill to increase the funding to \$3M/yr with no sunset. All of the users of these lakes will appreciate the interest and investment for these areas of recreation. To not do this will lead to an eventual tragedy for the state.

Thank You