



Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor  
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary  
Charles Glass, Deputy Secretary

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March 17, 2020

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
251 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Dana Stein  
Vice Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
251 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

***Re: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 142 – Recreational License Donation Program and Healing and Fishing Fund - Revisions***

Dear Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources provides the following information regarding Senate Bill 142. This bill will give individuals using the department's electronic licensing system an opportunity to make a voluntary monetary donation to the Healing Hunting and Fishing Fund. This bill changes the current management of the fund to that of the Chesapeake Bay Trust rather than the Secretary of Natural Resources. The bill also expands the use of the fund to authorized eligible sponsor organizations that provide opportunities for Gold Star recipients, disabled veterans, and other veterans.

The department welcomes the opportunity this legislation provides to its partner, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, as they continue this enhanced donation program, funded through a new check-off box on the department's electronic licensing system. The department is pleased to know that the Healing Hunting and Fishing Fund, under the Chesapeake Bay Trust, will have greater prospects in providing complimentary fishing and hunting licenses, recreational outdoor activities including therapeutic activities, and workforce training to Gold Star recipients, disabled veterans, and other veterans.

The current balance of the Healing Hunting and Fishing Fund is \$372.97. There have been no program participants to date.

Thank you for allowing the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to provide this information regarding Senate Bill 142.

Respectfully submitted,  
James W. McKitrick  
Director, Legislative and Constituent Services

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