

Pinsky.Let.HB333.MarineContracting.pdf

Uploaded by: Clark, Delegate Jerry

Position: FAV



**CALVERT COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
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www.calvertcountymd.gov

Board of Commissioners
Earl F. Hance, President
Steven R. Weems, Vice President
Mike Hart
Thomas E. Hutchins
Kelly D. McConkey

March 22, 2021

The Honorable Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB333 - Marine Contractor License – Performance of Services – Licensing Requirements and Fees

Senator Pinsky,

Upon discussion with our staff, the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County supports HB333, which includes authorizing an individual who is employed by the State, or a county or municipality in the State, to perform marine contractor services while in the performance of the duties of their employment without having to obtain a marine contractor license under certain circumstances.

We understand the Bill maintains the necessary and appropriate protections for the environment while decreasing the amount we currently spend as a local government. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, ext. 2202, or County Attorney John Norris at 410-535-1600, ext. 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important Bill.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Handwritten signature of Earl F. Hance in blue ink.

Earl F. Hance, President

Handwritten signature of Steven R. Weems in blue ink.

Steven R. Weems, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Mike Hart in blue ink.

Mike Hart

Handwritten signature of Thomas E. Hutchins in blue ink.

Thomas E. Hutchins

Handwritten signature of Kelly D. McConkey in blue ink.

Kelly D. McConkey

cc: Calvert County Senators and Calvert County Delegation

HB 333 - SUPPORT - CSMC.pdf

Uploaded by: Guy, Randy

Position: FAV

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

House Bill 333
Marine Contractor License - Performance of Services –
Licensing Requirements and Fees

SUPPORT

March 22, 2021

Senator Paul G. Pinsky, *Chair*
Maryland Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Pinsky:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County SUPPORT HB 333 Marine Contractor License - Performance of Services - Licensing Requirements and Fees which is being heard on March 24, 2021 in the Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee.

We support HB 333 and request a favorable report. We appreciate the introduction of this legislation and believe this legislation will benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. We look forward to working with you on this and other initiatives throughout the session.

Sincerely,
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY


James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB/sf
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Cc: Senator Jack Bailey
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Jerry Clark
Delegate Brian Crosby
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Todd Morgan
Commissioner John O'Connor
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
David Weiskopf, County Attorney

HB333_CBF_Oppose_DougMyers.pdf

Uploaded by: Myers, Doug

Position: UNF



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education

House Bill 333

Marine Contractor License – Performance of
Services – Licensing Requirements and Fees

Date: March 24, 2021
To: Senate Education, Health
and Environmental Affairs Committee

Position: **Oppose**
From: Doug Myers, Maryland Senior Scientist

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **OPPOSES HB 333** which exempts certain activities from being performed by a licensed marine contractor if that individual works for a state or local public agency and removes the requirement for that individual to have a marine contractor's license.

Exempting Certain Employees from the License Requirement for Tide Gate Construction and Tidal Impoundment Dike Maintenance May Result in Harm to Tidal Wetlands

This legislation creates three categories of project types that may be performed without a license by certain state or local public agency employees. All three categories potentially include projects related to and affecting the maintenance of tidal wetlands. The categories include:

1. The construction of tide gate designed to prevent the encroachment of saltwater;
2. The routine maintenance, repair, or replacement of a tidal impoundment dike, and agricultural drainage ditch, a highway drainage ditch, a roadside drainage ditch, or an outlet for a roadside drainage ditch, or
3. Any other marine contractor's service that the Board determines would present a *de minimis* risk to human health or the environment.

Agency employees who do not also hold a marine contractor's license may not necessarily have training or awareness of the laws and regulations designed to protect tidal wetlands. CBF is the fact that building and maintenance plans for many of these structures do not take sea level rise into account.

The Exemption of De Minimis Services Creates Uncertainty

The lack of an explicit list of activities in the 3rd category creates uncertainty. The Board would need to determine what is *de minimis* without considering site-specific conditions.

CBF urges the Committee's UNFAVORABLE report on HB 333.

Maryland Office • Philip Merrill Environmental Center • 6 Herndon Avenue • Annapolis • Maryland • 21403
Phone (410) 268-8816 • Fax (410) 280-3513

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 300,000 members and e-subscribers, including over 109,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.