

38° North Oysters

Monday, January 18, 2021

Dear House Environment and Transportation Committee members,

I asked that you find a favorable report for HB0145. It is important to ensure the future of the oyster aquaculture industry in the state of Maryland.

It would have been impossible to fully understand all of the environmental, operational, and legal issues and subtleties as this industry was getting started ten plus years ago. This bill is intended to simply a fix an important issues.

As someone who's been subject to a serious theft, aided NRP in catching the perpetrator, and got a successful conviction of the perpetrator, I can tell you that we need to bring greater clarity to the theft laws and greater penalties for the theft.

While I am supportive of this effort, I do have some friendly suggestions that could improve the bill. I have suggestions that could make the bill clearer and suggestions that could make the bill carry more gravity.

Please call me and I would be happy to talk about mu suggestions and any issue if you have questions

Thank you,

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