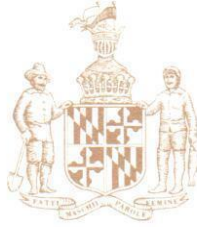


**JIM GILCHRIST**  
*Legislative District 17*  
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Environment and Transportation  
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**HB 884 Old-Growth Forests**  
**March 30, 2022**

**EHEA Committee**

**Favorable with Amendment**  
**Amendment 363427**

HB 884 protects Old-Growth Forests in State Parks and Wildlife Management Areas. Both of these areas are managed by the Department of Natural Resources. Amendment 363427 adds Natural Resources Management Areas. I urge a favorable report for HB 884 with Amendment 363427.

After the bill was voted on by the House it came to my attention that Natural Resource Management Areas, also managed by the Department of Natural Resources, includes an important Old-Growth Forest on the Eastern Shore. I have drafted an amendment to include Natural Resource Management Areas. That is amendment number 363427 for House Bill 884.

I hope the Committee will be able to consider favorably the bill with this amendment. However, the bill as passed by the House is an important step in protecting Old-Growth Forests. I leave it to the committee to determine if the bill with or without the amendment is appropriate at this time. I urge action to protect Old-Growth Forests. Thank you so much for considering this bill.