

Environment and Transportation

RE: HB 593

Oyster shells from the public fishery are sustaining sanctuary restoration, spat on shell aquaculture, and wild fishery repletion projects.

The Oyster Advisory Commission recognizes there is a shell shortage in the State of Maryland.

It is important to find viable sources of shell.

Shell reclamation projects have been successfully completed in the Patuxent River. I have seen firsthand how the projects have helped with oyster propagation **on both the bar where shell was reclaimed and the oyster bar where the shell was relocated.**

Please support House Bill 593. The industry, restoration efforts, and aquaculture depend on it.

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