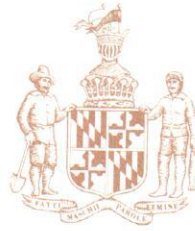


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Caroline, Cecil, Kent, and
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Environment and Transportation
Committee

Subcommittees
Motor Vehicles and Transportation
Natural Resources, Agriculture,
and Open Space

Joint Committee on Administrative,
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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HB593 – Department of Natural Resources – Oyster Shell Dredging – Permit Application

Chairman Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

Today I am presenting HB 593, an Emergency Bill to address the shortage of clean oyster shell that is in so much demand at this time for the repletion of oyster bars at various locations in the State of Maryland. This bill lists 27 sites throughout the Chesapeake Bay region determined by the County Oyster Committees for possible dredging of buried shell to be relocated on sites determined by the County Oyster Committees and the Board of Directors of the Oyster Recovery Partnership. This legislation also requires the Department of Natural Resources to apply to the Department of the Environment and the United States Army Corps of Engineers for permits to dredge the buried shell.

The legislation also directs that any shell removed from public bottom shall be relocated on public bottom.

Thank you for your consideration and I ask for a favorable vote!