



**County Council
of
Baltimore County**

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Tom Quirk
FIRST DISTRICT

Izzy Patoka
SECOND DISTRICT

Wade Kach
THIRD DISTRICT

Julian E. Jones, Jr.
FOURTH DISTRICT

David Marks
FIFTH DISTRICT

Cathy Bevins
SIXTH DISTRICT

Todd K. Crandell
SEVENTH DISTRICT

Thomas H. Bostwick
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
SECRETARY

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Taylor House Office Building, Room 251
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Delegate Barve:

Attached please find a copy of Resolution 5-22 of the Baltimore County Council supporting the Maryland General Assembly's favorable consideration of House Bill 500, introduced in this year's General Assembly Session to prohibit the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from dredging buried oyster shells on Man-O-War Shoals or including such dredging as part of a fishery management plan.

This Resolution was approved by the County Council at its February 7, 2022 meeting and is being forwarded to you for appropriate action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas H. Bostwick".

Thomas H. Bostwick
Legislative Counsel/Secretary

THB:jlh

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2022, Legislative Day No. 2

Resolution No. 5-22

Councilmembers Crandell, Marks, Bevins, Kach, Patoka & Quirk

By the County Council, January 18, 2022

A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council supporting the Maryland General Assembly's favorable consideration of ~~legislation~~ House Bill 500, introduced in this year's General Assembly Session to prohibit the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from dredging buried oyster shells on Man-O-War Shoals or including such dredging as part of a fishery management plan.

WHEREAS, the Man-O-War Shoal is located off of the shores of Southeast Baltimore County and is the last large oyster reef in the Upper Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, the 450 plus acre reef contains approximately 100 million bushels of buried oyster shell at its core, which was built up over millennia of oysters continuing use the shoal as a foundation to attach after spawning; and

WHEREAS, from 1960 until 2006, as part of its oyster reef replenishment project, DNR dredged nearly 200 million bushels of buried oyster shell from the Upper Chesapeake Bay and barged it into the southern Bay area where salinity is higher and supports better reproduction and growth of oysters; and

WHEREAS, since the early 2000's, the oyster population in the Chesapeake Bay has languished at 1% of historic levels, the suitable oyster habitat has decreased, and a the number of harvesters has dwindled; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, DNR began establishing sanctuary areas where the harvest of wild

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY that the County Council hereby supports the Maryland General Assembly's favorable consideration of legislation House Bill 500, introduced at this year's General Assembly Session to prohibit the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from dredging buried oyster shells on Man-O-War Shoals or including such dredging as part of a fishery management plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to all members of the Baltimore County delegation to the General Assembly and the Governor's Office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.