"Protecting & Promoting the Marine Construction Industry Though Unity & Leadership."



9691 Cordova Road Easton, Maryland 21601 www.mdmarinecontractors.org 410-822-0510

March 1, 2023

Maryland House of Delegates Environment and Transportation Committee Room 251 House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB1085 Boating - Migratory Waterfowl Season - Prohibited Acts

Dear Chairman Barve & Committee Members:

The Maryland Marine Contractors Association (M.M.C.A.) provides the following comments on HB1085.

The M.M.C.A. is generally supportive of House Bill 1085 with amendment. In its current form HB1085 could be significantly limiting to the marine construction industry. The bill proposes to prohibit any and all vessels from being in operation within 500 feet of an occupied hunting blind. Our industry is already subject to overlapping regulatory time of year restrictions. We can understand the existing limitations on recreational activities (fishing) within certain limits of hunting activity, but we believe the restriction on working vessels to be overburdensome.

We respectfully request an amendment that exempts all <u>licensed</u> marine contractors, who are working in the vicinity of a stationary blind or blind site that is occupied and being used for hunting migratory waterfowl, from this seasonal restriction.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Maryland Marine Contractors Association, Inc.

M.M.C.A. President

BSW/ksw