

## HB 1262 OPPOSED REQUEST UNFAVORABLE REPORT

## MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DELMARVA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION INC, WHICH REPRESENTS WATERMAN AND THE COMMERCIAL SEAFOOD INDUSTRY THROUGHOUT MARYLAND, OPPOSES HB 1262.

THE BILL WE FIND THIS BILL UNNECESSARY, NOT BENEFICIAL IN ANY MANNER TO THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY OF MARYLAND, AND EXTREMELY ARBITRARY TO SAY THE LEAST. WITH ALL THE AMENDMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN THROWN ON THIS BILL IT NOW BECOMES A CONFUSING DOCUMENT, AND THUS, HAS TURNED INTO JUST A BUNCH OF WRITING ON PAPER.

THE ONLY AMENDMENT THAT WOULD MAKE THIS BILL MERIT EVEN CONSIDERATION OF THE INDUSTRY WOULD BE IF THE AMENDMENT READ, "THE DREDGING OF MAN O' WAR SHOALS OYSTER SHELL SHALL MOVE FORWARD TO SUPPORT NOT ONLY THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY BUT AQUACULTURE AND THE SANCTUARY PROJECTS". WITH THIS AMENDMENT, THE BILL WOULD PROBABLY BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE INDUSTRY. THAT BEING SAID, AS THE BILL STANDS NOW AND IWITHOUT THE ABOVE PROPOSED AMENDMENT, WE RESPECTFULLY ASK MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR AN UNFAVORABLE VOTE ON HB 1262

Captain Rob Newberry, Chair Delmarva Fisheries Association, Inc.