March 13, 2023

Chairman Barve
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members

Unfavorable Testimony on HB1262

I wish to submit opposition for the above-mentioned bill, for the reason of potentially pre-approving areas without first completing the necessary regulatory processes that are already required for aquaculture leasing.

We're opposed to deleting on page 4 line 27 the publishing in a newspaper published in the county or counties where the proposed lease is to be located. The process of applying for an aquaculture lease should be transparent. There are areas in the state where internet service is not reliable at this time and some citizens do rely on print media for their information and legal notices

Yours Truly,

James T. Mullin

Maryland Oysterman Association