

HB 843

3/1/2023 2PM Rm. 250

Baltimore Regional Water Governance Task Force

Testimony of Douglas Celmer board chair (BRNPCA)

Good afternoon Chairman Barve and members of the Committee. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to appear before you and discuss the bill creating a task force to study Baltimore Regional Water Governance

My name is Douglas Celmer Representing the Back River Neck Peninsula Community Association (BRNPCA) and the Celmer Family.

My Family has lived alongside of Back River for 100 years, my granddaughter is 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Celmer on this land. We know first hand about the Back River Wastewater Treatment plant and its failings.

HB 43

Section 1 paragraph (b) (1)

ALL political jurisdictions shall be EQUALLY represented. Clean drinking water and properly treated waste water are a right of all persons in the State.

It is absolutely unacceptable that the City of Baltimore shall have veto authority for the actions of this task force. Paragraph (f) (2).

The Goal of the Task force shall be the creation of an independent Baltimore Suburban Sanitary Commission (BSSC) modeled after the very effective and professional Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) that serves Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties.

Thank You for your kind attention.

Douglas Celmer

Board Chair BRNPCA