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## **CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Cecil County Administration Building 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan Education, Energy and the Environment Committee 2 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0317– Oysters, Striped Bass, and Crabs - Commercial Authorizations - Suspensions and Revocations Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously support SB 0317 - Oysters, Striped Bass, and Crabs - Commercial Authorizations - Suspensions and Revocations. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 27, 2024.

It is our understanding that this legislation is prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from revoking a person's authorization to catch oysters, striped bass, or crabs unless the person has been convicted of or entered an accepted plea of nolo contendere to a certain crime; altering and establishing certain procedures for the suspension or revocation of an authorization to catch oysters, striped bass, or crabs; and authorizing the Department to reinstate a certain authorization under certain circumstances.

Cecil County strongly supports our commercial fisheries and believes that due process should extend to all our citizens.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully request that the Education, Energy and Environment Committee send a favorable report on SB 0317.

Sincerely,

Danielle Hornberger County Executive

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Jackie Gregory President of County Council

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