

House Bill 886 – SUPPORT

**House Bill 886 – Environment - CAD Task Force
House Committee on Environment and Transportation
February 23, 2024**

My name is Benjamin Doan I live in the waterfront community of Lombardee Beach community in Northern Anne Arundel County. My wife and I just bought our property on 1018 Nabbs Creek Rd., Glen, Burnie, Maryland. Two years ago which sits right on Nabbs Creek Road. We have been looking to start a family and it's really been looking forward to raising our kids and being able to fish off the pier and have them swim and enjoy time on the boat and really just enjoy the water.

I am terrified by the lack of research, of the long-term and short term impacts on both the environment and the safety of our well beings if this ability to allow dumping and contaminated dredging material put into our waterways is permitted. We owe it to ourselves to do the research to ensure there is no risk to us as people and to the waterways and the water life. If we don't do the research, there's no going back we can't undo this. The repercussions could cost millions to include our property values that will diminish, which will ultimately not only hurt those who are residents of the waterfront like myself, but will also hurt the county as a reduction in our taxes as a result of the property values. Sicknesses of residence and wildlife nearby, etc.

We need an unbiased opinion to come in and do the research to ensure our safety and the safety of the wildlife. As a waterfront property, homeowner I can tell you that the amount of additional restrictions and requirements that we have to meet because we have waterfront properties to protect the water life in fear of doing something that's irreversible it's a lot, but we understand that it's there to protect the wildlife and the waterfront. We should also be holding the MPA to the same standard. The waterways of Maryland are a huge resource not only for restaurants, but people that want to go, fishing charters, crabbing, etc. businesses properties, estates, they plan on these waters, being safe to continue producing a way of living for their families, so we owe it to ourselves as a county and as a state, to ensure that this research that's being conducted by this task force is done by people who are not influenced to allow this dredging to happen.

Describe the importance of the oversight of an independent CAD task force not over-populated with MPA representatives or their contractors to consider the environmental safety, human health, and potential personal concerns and impacts for you in however many paragraphs you need.

It is important that the task force proposed in House Bill 886 is moved into legislation. It's important the task force has independent science experts, impacted citizens, and watermen in its membership. It's also important that the task force has meaningful bidirectional interactions with impacted communities in North Anne Arundel County and with our legislative representatives.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Doan

Lombardee Beach community