

House Bill 886 – SUPPORT

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

My name is Tracey Jessilonis. I live in the waterfront community of Lombardee Beach in Northern Anne Arundel County. My husband and I have lived on the water for many years and enjoy many water activities, especially boating, kayaking, fishing, crabbing, etc.

My concerns about the risks and impacts of Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) dumping of contaminated dredge material would be the tremendous and negative impact on our waterways. Clearly the cleanliness, safety, and overall health of the waterways would be severely impacted. What diseases are we at risk of by coming in contact with the water, swimming and skiing in the water, and eating the fish and crabs that come from the water? It can't be good! I want to avoid possible risks of this NOW and in the FUTURE. How many years will it take before we discover the impacts of this on our health?

An 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 is EXTREMELY important! This clearly is of huge concern to many of us and it is imperative that the time and research is done to clarify exactly what the impact of this would be and to develop solutions to avoid any negative consequences now or in the future. A temporary bandaid or fix isn't enough.

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,

Tracey Jessilonis
Lombardee Beach