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Education, Energy, and the  
Environment Committee

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and  
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



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## *The Senate of Maryland* ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

### **SB 312 - Natural Resources - State Parks - Maryland Golden Age Pass**

I am Senator Bryan Simonaire presenting SB 312.

This is **an easy bill** as I worked with the **Department of Natural Resources** and **other stakeholders** to present this consensus legislation.

In **order to expedite this hearing**, I have asked my panel to only submit written support.

The **Department of Natural Resources** has a State Park pass for seniors. It is called the **Golden Age Pass** that can be obtained by individuals 62 years of age or older for a nominal application fee.

Currently, Maryland law **lays out what privileges are associated** with the **Maryland Golden Age Pass** in Natural Resources Article 5-1009, such as, **camp overnight** in any State Park at one-half of the established fee Monday through Thursday, excluding holidays.

However, **other privileges are NOT included in 5-1009** which are granted to Golden Age Pass holders, such as:

**Free entry** into State Parks

Clarifying language on other passengers in the vehicle

**Unlimited and free boat launching** in State Parks

While these other privileges are **included in regulations or website publications**, the Golden Age Pass section in law should be complete and list all the major privileges granted under this program.

Therefore, this **bill clarifies the privileges** that are granted under the Golden Age Pass.

There is **no fiscal impact** and there is **no opposition**.

For all these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration.