

**Senate Bill 168 – SUPPORT**

**Senate Bill 168 – Environment  
Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment  
“Environmental Justice in Confined Aquatic Disposal Act”**

My name is Andrea Gibble, and I live in the community of Stoney Beach, in Northern Anne Arundel County.

I moved to this area and the Stoney Beach Community when I bought my first home a little over two years ago. I couldn't believe how fortunate I was to live in such a beautiful place, so close to so much nature. My dog Cooper and I quickly made a habit of walking along my community's boardwalk and community park situated on the bay several times a week, as well as walking Ft. Smallwood Park at least once a week. Before I even fully moved in, I had become an annual passholder to the AA County parks and had discovered Quiet Rivers and Downs Park. Being able to sit on and walk along the shores of the bay are relaxing and a wonderful change of pace. Since I was little, I loved photography and taking pictures of the world around me became a hobby. The nature and animals of this area have greatly increased the beauty of my photographs and my joy in simply taking photographs for hobbies-sake. Having easy access to fishing and kayaking also brought me two new and additional hobbies when I moved here.

As a former public-school teacher and now the owner of a children's science & technology summer camp business, I understand and appreciate the importance of not only enjoying but preserving our natural resources and environment. This part of Maryland has so many ecosystems and habitats with countless animals, birds, fish, and other organisms. It's a shame to think that all of this could be at risk simply because a big corporation is trying to find an easier and quicker way to do their job and get rid of dredge material. I have seen and read the literature about the proposed CAD. It is alarming that it is even being considered as an option for an area that is so populated and surrounded by communities and parks. Because CADs have only been used in non-residential settings, there is little data to support how safe it is for people and wildlife nearby. After reading the information, I was left with a lot more questions than knowledge. It seemed that those in favor and in charge of CAD hoped that the vague, non-descriptive information would be enough. It was not.

**It is important that environmental justice is supported in pollution-overburdened communities near the Patapsco River and that the river, its waterways, and communities near these waterways are not subjected to further pollution risks posed by Confined Aquatic Disposal of dredge material. I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 168 which will address longstanding environmental injustices on the Patapsco and protect pollution-impacted communities and waterways from further pollution caused by Confined Aquatic Disposal.**

Sincerely,



Andrea Gibble

Stoney Beach Community