

**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 Chuck Thompson. I live in the community of Bayside Beach in Northern Anne Arundel County.

I’ve lived in Pasadena, MD since 1960. Over the years I’ve seen the water quality in Rock Creek become quite appalling – not fit for fish, fowl, or human.

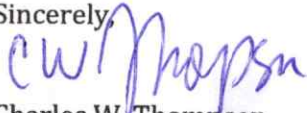
Recently I’ve been pleasantly surprised by the life being brought back into Rock Creek. It appears the waterways are recovering, so I do not understand why anyone would want to jeopardize this trend with the damage a Confined Aquatic Disposal approach could introduce into the waterways.

In addition, I understand the Cox Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility (CC DMCF) will eventually reach full capacity, and planning is needed to maintain the channels into the Baltimore Harbor. Right now, all dredged material based on a geographic definition rather than a technical definition is being vectored to the CC DMCF. Because both acceptable and unacceptable dredged material (i.e., geographic definition) is required to go to the CC DMCF this will lead to a premature closure of the facility. There are viable options to extend the end-of-life forecast for the CC DMCF that should be pursued.

Support for this bill means support for enhancing the Patapsco River, and that is a worthy cause.

**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,



Charles W. Thompson

Bayside Beach