



MARYLAND COASTAL BAYS PROGRAM

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Senator Brian J. Feldman
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Support for SB 722

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Committee,

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program thanks you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **Support of SB 722**. The Coastal Bays Program is a local watershed organization in Worcester County. Our mission is the protection, preservation and restoration of waters in the 5 coastal bays that make up our watershed. As part of our mission, we undertake many ecosystem restoration and enhancement projects within the watershed.

Ecological Restoration is an often used term; however, the meaning of the term is not always well understood. Consistency across state agencies and other organizations would be a benefit to the citizens of Maryland and those of us who work in the field of ecological restoration.

Ecological restoration will be a cornerstone to achieving mandated goals for the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays watersheds. This will be aided by the recognition of an accepted definition. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment and we are very appreciative of your committee's leadership in moving forward with the passage of SB 722.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Smith, Executive Director
Maryland Coastal Bays Program