

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 Thomas Kerr. I live in the community of Riviera Beach in Northern Anne Arundel County.

I live in Riviera Beach, Pasadena, Md and are a block away from the Chesapeake Bay where they plan to dump dredging material. I have attended several meetings and it's not clear if this has ever been tried or is safe. No one can give constructive information on whether this is safe or what lasting affects it will bring.

This area south of the Key Bridge already has mounds of dredge on the shoreline that may be going into our Bay.

I walk along the water daily and our grandchildren wade in the water and fish. Our dog swims in the water and we all eat crabs from this Bay. If this happens we will no longer feel safe doing any of this. Try to tell an nine year old boy it is no longer safe to fish in this beautiful Bay. My wife and I have lived in Riviera Beach all of our lives since 1957 and have enjoyed the Bay. Please do not allow this to happen to many folks who also enjoy this area with their loved ones.

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,

Thomas Kerr
Riviera Beach