

## **SB 168 Environmental Justice in Confined Aquatic Disposal Act - Support**

I live on the Magothy River in Pasadena Maryland and I recently became aware of the CAD program slated for the Patapsco River/Chesapeake Bay and it's detrimental impact on the environment we live in. How a project in the making for nearly two years could have gone undetected in our community is truly unbelievable. They applied for and were granted permits without so much as a conversation with the community they will be impacting. Unacceptable.

Although I live on the Magothy River and will not be directly impacted by this recent reckless proposition, it is only a matter of time before these harmful impacts make its way to my front door. A front door being the waterways where my family lives, boats, swims, crabs and any other activity that we can do on the water. We live on the water so we can enjoy the benefits of swimming in our own waters, crabbing off our own piers, and fishing in the River we call home as well as the Chesapeake Bay without the uncertainty of being slowly poisoned. We don't live here for free.....we pay the price for this luxury and the CAD program will absolutely disrupt sediment habitats, release toxic pollutants and affect the erosion of the riverbanks. My children and grandchildren swim in these waters!

Although I did not attend the town meeting in the second quarter of 2023, I personally know at least 15 people who did attend and it was clear there was no coordination with the Community or County Representatives who did attend. When our County Representatives stand up and say they have no knowledge of this proposal, clearly there is a problem. They were completely unprepared to answer the simplest questions as well as unable to explain the effects on the environment or our health. We need answers.

Due to their irresponsible oversimplification/misstatements presented, it is gravely important that any task force should be a joint team of independent experts in health, science and environmental impact as well as nonpartisan experts in CAD and their reports should be coordinated with our County legislators. All results should be presented in a public forum to allow residents who are directly impacted to understand how their findings will impact their health, waterways and ultimately the value of our homes. We all have to advocate for environmentally conscious

practices that protect our cherished waterways and the health and well being of the residents who live here.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Robin Lyate