



February 4, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Senate Bill 301 – Natural Resources – Removal and Storage of Abandoned or Sunken Vessels – Funding

Dear Chair Feldman:

On behalf of the Marine Trades Association of Maryland, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 301 which will authorize the Department of Natural Resources to use funds budgeted for the Natural Resources Police to remove or store abandoned or sunken vessels.

Removal of abandoned or sunken vessels are a priority for marinas and boatyards in the State, and additional funds are critical for the success of this important initiative.

The Marine Trades Association of Maryland is a 501(c)(6) organization representing the recreational boating industry in Maryland. The recreational boating industry has a \$4.2 billion economic impact in Maryland representing 16,871 jobs. With 3,190 miles of shoreline, our waterways and watersports are a big part of who we are and why people choose Maryland as their home.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Stefancik
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee