



**Talbot Watermen Association, Inc.**

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February 4, 2025

The Honorable Brian Feldman  
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
The Honorable Cheryl Kagan  
Vice Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Kagan,

We are writing to express our **support** for **Senate Bill 87 Fisheries - Striped Bass or Rockfish - Juvenile Survey**.

Senate Bill 87 expands the scope of the annual young-of-the-year juvenile striped bass survey by adding additional sampling sites in the Chesapeake Bay. Each year, Maryland's Young-of-Year Striped Bass Survey provides important information on the reproductive success of striped bass. The survey, which has been conducted since the 1950s, also helps identify trends through the collection of long-term data. Biologists, fisheries management experts, and commercial industry members, however, are noting shifts in the migration and spawning patterns of Maryland's striped bass. These shifts are likely driven by changing weather patterns, water quality, invasive species, and habitat loss. We believe it is important to better understand these shifts by collecting additional data in other regions of the Bay. Adding new sampling sites will help build on the success of the Young-of-Year Survey and provide informative data that acknowledges our changing environment.

We thank you in advance for your consideration and respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 87.

Sincerely,

Herman Jeffrey Harrison  
President

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