

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 Marston. I live in the community of Lombardee Beach in Northern Anne Arundel County.

I became a Master Watershed Steward in 2018 to support the County’s policy to support environmental best practices. I did not learn that dumping my trash on someone else’s backyard is the best policy for addressing environmental problems.

I live on the water, and I see a significant improvement in water quality due to the growth of aquatic vegetation. I also support programs that grow baby oysters known as spat at my dock. I know that these baby oysters will be placed in Patapsco River and support additional efforts to improve water quality.

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 Marston

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