



Talbot Watermen Association, Inc.

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February 19, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
The Honorable Regina T. Boyce
Vice Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Korman and Vice Chair Boyce,

We are writing to express our **support** for **House Bill 889 Fisheries - Striped Bass or Rockfish - Juvenile Survey**.

HB889 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 HB889.

Sincerely,

Herman Jeffrey Harrison
President

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