



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education*

Senate Bill 258
Natural Resources - Fishing Licenses and Stamps - Alterations

Date: March 26, 2025
To: Environment & Transportation Committee

Position: **FAVORABLE**
From: Matt Stegman,
Maryland Staff Attorney

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 258, which would impose a modest increase in fees associated with several sport fishing licenses issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The fees impacted by the bill have not been revisited in many years (in some cases more than 30 years) and have not kept pace with the cost of running programs in the DNR's Freshwater Fisheries and Hatcheries Division.

As Maryland navigates a period of budget uncertainty, it is important to ensure that the users of programs help support the cost of them. Recreational anglers – including many CBF members and employees – benefit from the research, population surveys, invasive species management, technical guidance, education, access, and water quality monitoring DNR provides and it is fair to ask that we pay a nominal amount more to ensure those resources remain available.

CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE report on SB 258.

For more information, please contact Matt Stegman, Maryland Staff Attorney, at mstegman@cbf.org.

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The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 200,000 members and e-subscribers, including 71,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.