

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY
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March 3, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support – Senate Bill 0755 – Natural Resources – Striped Bass Recreational Seasons and Fisheries Regulations

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for Senate Bill 0755 entitled, “Natural Resources – Striped Bass Recreational Seasons and Fisheries Regulations,” which prohibitS the Department of Natural Resources from establishing a recreational catch and release season for striped bass; requiring the Department to establish certain recreational and charter boat summer and fall striped bass seasons and a trophy season for striped bass; requiring the Department to complete and submit to certain State entities for review an economic impact statement for any proposed fisheries regulations identified by the Department as having a major impact on interested stakeholders; and generally relating to recreational fishing seasons for striped bass and fisheries regulations.

Dorchester County strongly supports SB 0755 because it advances a balanced and enforceable framework for the conservation and long-term sustainability of Maryland’s striped bass fishery. By strengthening regulatory oversight and clarifying management standards, this legislation promotes responsible stewardship of a critical natural resource while preserving lawful recreational and charter fishing opportunities.

The striped bass fishery is both an environmental asset and an economic driver for Dorchester County. Recreational anglers, charter operators, tackle retailers, and tourism-related businesses depend upon a stable and sustainable fishery. SB 0755 supports these local economic interests while reinforcing accountability within the State agencies charged with fisheries management. Therefore, we respectfully ask that you look favorably upon this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. If you have any questions, please contact the Council’s Office at (410) 228-1700.

Sincerely,

George L. Pfeffer, Jr.
President

cc:
The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Senator
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate
The Honorable Tom Hutchinson, Delegate