

SB0559 (2026) Favorable Report
Sean Beck

Atlantic Striped Bass are a driving force for recreational fishing along the East Coast as well as a sustainable source of seafood when managed properly. All along the Coast states use citizen scientist programs to monitor striped bass catch rates, fishing techniques, and sizes to better inform management policies. Nova Scotia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maryland, and Virginia all have various implementations of citizen-scientist programs for monitoring stripers, as well as private organizations such as On The Water. This bill would allow Maryland to expand its own citizen data-driven initiative to help inform management decisions specific to the Chesapeake and coastal Maryland fisheries while providing latitude to the Department of Natural Resources on implementation details. So that we may better manage our striped bass fishery I ask for a favorable report on this bill.