



## **PRINCE GEORGE'S CONTRACTORS & BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**6710 Oxon Hill Road, Suite 210, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20746**

Good afternoon, **Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan**, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

For the record, I am John Young, representing the Prince George's County Contractors & Business Association and myself as a successful business owner, resident, boat owner and an avid fisherman living in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

### **The Business Association is honored to support Bill SB0755 - Natural Resources - Striped Bass Recreational Seasons and Fisheries Regulations.**

This emergency legislation brings to the attention of the state of Maryland devastation that is occurring within the fisheries industry that affects us all and could force over 400 charter boat owners, many other hospitality industry business owners and tourism on the eastern shore and southern Maryland to close forever.

Also, the protection of the striped bass during the spawning industry is vitally important to meet the 'spawning stock biomass' target and to maintain a health fishery industry. During this time, the species is most vulnerable and targeting them—even through catch-and-release—raises legitimate concerns about the long-term sustainability of the population.

I ask you today to support Senate Bill 0755, which seeks to protect the striped bass population while also supporting Maryland's fishing economy.

John Young, Board of Directors  
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