

**Senate Bills 0780 and 0781 – SUPPORT**  
**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - BURDEN Analysis (SB 0780)**  
**and**  
**Environmental Permits - Requirements for Burden Analysis, Issuance and Renewal, and Public**  
**Participation (Cumulative Harms for Environmental Restoration for Improving Shared Health**  
**(SB 0781)**  
**(CHERISH Our Communities Act)**  
**Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Committee,

I am a member of the community living along the shores of Stoney Creek and the Patapsco River in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Our family enjoys water recreation and other outdoor activities, including bird watching and fishing.

I am concerned about cumulative pollution in the area, including the legacy pollution and current polluters near my community. While I am concerned about how the pollution is affecting the health of our waterways, land areas, wildlife, and climate, I am particularly concerned about how pollution is affecting my family's health and well-being.

I support this bill as it will protect the most impacted communities from air, water, and soil pollution. The bill will also protect community and worker health, reduce sick days and pollution-related chronic diseases and disabilities, reduce impacts on businesses, reduce impacts to both public and private health and economic infrastructure, and improve property values.

Senate Bills SB 0780 and SB 0781 proposed in this legislative session will create the necessary regulatory infrastructure to implement a measured and cost-effective approach to correcting the burden of cumulative pollution in Maryland's most overburdened communities and it will give overburdened communities a voice in the process.

**I strongly support SB 0780 and SB 0781.**

Sincerely,

Matthew Laurens  
Stoney Beach, Curtis Bay, MD  
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