



TESTIMONY FOR SB0225

Environment – Interjurisdictional Waterways – Flood Management

Bill Sponsor: Senator Washington

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB0225 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

There are many aspects of climate change that continue to wreak havoc on the lives of Marylanders. One of the most dangerous aspects is flash flooding. There are several areas in Maryland that urgently require mitigation strategies for chronic flooding.

This bill, if enacted, would set aside the following areas as interjurisdictional flood hazard watersheds:

- Carroll Creek in Frederick City and Frederick County
- Gwinns Falls in Baltimore City and Baltimore County
- Jones Falls in Baltimore City and Baltimore County
- Herring Run in Baltimore City and Baltimore County

In addition, the Patapsco River, including all headwaters and tributaries in Baltimore city, Baltimore County, Howard County, Carroll County, and Anne Arundel County would be set aside as interjurisdictional flood hazard waterways.

This would ensure that a comprehensive flood management plan would be in place with mitigation strategies for anticipated flooding. This will protect the citizens in those areas from penitential loss of life as well as severe property damage.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.