



Maryland Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies, Inc.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

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March 9, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: OPPOSE -- HB 1465 (Environment – Stream and Floodplain Restoration Projects – Requirements and Limitations)

Dear Chair Korman:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies (MAMWA), I am writing to **OPPOSE** HB 1465, which would add requirements to stormwater management plans involving in-stream construction or the mechanical alteration of a stream (p. 7, l. 1-11).

MAMWA is a statewide association of local governments and wastewater treatment agencies that serve approximately 95% of the State's sewer population. Many of MAMWA's members also operate a public water system. MAMWA Members often seek approval for drinking water and wastewater capital projects that involve in-stream construction.

HB 1465 would add requirements to projects if stormwater management plan approval is required. For example, a MAMWA Member working in and around a stream would need to provide "a reasonable range of non-stream-disturbing stormwater management practices capable of achieving the project objectives;" (p. 7, l. 7-9). Not only is this pointless for a project that is needed to supply potable drinking water and that must occur in and around a stream, but it would result in delays in submitting plans, delays in plan approval, and higher project costs. MAMWA questions whether the financial burden borne by our wastewater and drinking water customers and your constituents would provide any environmental benefit.

For these reasons, MAMWA urges the Committee to vote **NO** on HB 1465. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at Lisa@AquaLaw.com or 804-716-9021.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Ochsenhirt
MAMWA Deputy General Counsel

GENERAL COUNSEL

AquaLaw PLC

cc: Environment and Transportation Committee Members, HB 1465 Sponsors