

Good afternoon Chair Korman, Vice Chair and Committee Members, I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify before this council on behalf of HB1196/SB940. I also want to thank Senator Henson / Delegates Long, and Howard for bringing this bill before the Senate / House in our great state of Maryland.

I support this bill with Amendments for following reasons:

For the record my name is Robin Ross, I reside in Lothian, Md in one of the four mobile home parks – Patuxent Mobile Home Community also known as Patuxent Shores.

By trade I have worked in the Commercial and Residential HVAC, Plumbing and Electrical industry for the last 20+ years as a systems design, installation and service fields often dealing with geothermal and ground source open and closed loop well water water systems as well as potable well water systems.

Further, I am a certified SAR K9 handle/trainer who has served for more than 20 years in our communities throughout MD, Va, Del, Pa and numerous others as part of MD TaskForce1.

I also hold my BS Degree in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota (UMTC)

I am here representing myself – and other residents within the mobile home parks to urge you to vote favorable for SB940. I am going to share with you the conditions we have had to endure for years with our drinking water that is supplied by the park owners. You will not see other residents here [today](#) – mostly because they are working – but it is really because they are afraid of retaliation from park owners for speaking out.

And if you and your family were experiencing conditions of the drinking water we receive in our homes – you would be speaking out – demanding action from state health officials and regulators as well.

I have lived in Patuxent Mobile Estates aka Patuxent Shores for over six years now. First, I cannot tell you the number of times that we have gone for days without water – and that the park owners do not even let us know what is going on – or provide emergency water. Our calls to county and state offices have limited response – as these are private communities. We are grateful for the help of Senator Henson and Stuart Pittman's office.

But the big issue is the foul water that continually comes out of our faucet that is filled with iron, discolored, has granular debris and odors that you

can smell when you walk in the door. These situations last for days – with no emergency water provided by park owners. You cannot use the water when it is like this – let alone consume it.

I own two professional search and rescue K9's. As a SAR handler who has served for more than 20 years our communities throughout MD, Va Del, Pa and numerous others as part of MD TaskForce1 – When I first moved here I fed my two K9's the water and they became so ill they were near death. My neighbors have had to seek medical treatment for their children and themselves for intestinal issues as well as skin sores and irritation.

The reason these situations occur has to do with failures in the treatment systems operated by park owners – and poor maintenance. The state and county environment and health officials do not have the authority to enforce owners to ensure that the treatment for these conditions is because Maryland does not have the authority to enforce the secondary treatment regulations for private water suppliers. Please pass SB0940 and HB1196