



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY ANNAPOLIS  
58 BENNION ROAD  
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21402

5090  
Ser N00/156  
17 March 2021

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
Maryland General Assembly  
House Office Building, Room 251  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Barve:

SUBJECT: HOUSE BILL 843, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY- NATURAL RESOURCES-  
FISHING WITH A HAUL SEINE

On behalf of Naval Support Activity Annapolis, I am writing to express concern with House Bill 843, which would allow use of seine nets in areas that overlap waters used by the United States Naval Academy for training. While HB 843 does say that the net usage is prohibited in the Severn River, the bill defines the Severn River only as a line drawn from Greenbury Point to Horn Point. Under HB 843, seine nets would be allowed south of this line. This would cause issues for the United States Naval Academy, which uses this area for open water training. Seine nets can be very large (750 feet across), and once set, craft must stay away by up to 1,000 feet. This will greatly shrink the training area available to the United States Naval Academy. Deployed nets would also force longer transits for training vessels to find clear water.

Naval Support Activity Annapolis and the United States Naval Academy would welcome the opportunity to refine the bill to prevent harm to the United States Naval Academy's ability to accomplish its training mission.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact myself or our Community Planning and Liaison Officer Ms. Zoë Johnson at (410) 293-1084 or [zoe.johnson1@navy.mil](mailto:zoe.johnson1@navy.mil).

Sincerely,

H. R. DENIUS III  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer

Copy to: Zoë Johnson, NSAA CPLO  
Delegate Dana Jones, District 30A Anne Arundel