

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0876 – Water Pollution – Civil Penalty Surcharge  
Oyster Repletion Fund

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee,

The Protectors of the St Martin River supports SB0876.

Our organization has undertaken numerous efforts in support of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program to restore healthy waterways in the coastal bays of Maryland, through the restoration of natural oyster beds. Our organization has also worked to educate the of residents in critical areas of the Coastal Bays as to environmentally sensitive land management and through an oyster gardening program to reduce excess nutrients in the coastal bays. This bill could provide a significant contribution to the protection of the health and well-being of the coastal bays of Maryland, if they were included along with the Chesapeake Bay.

Respectfully,

Joseph Jankowski, Director  
Protectors of the St Martin River