



...helping to reduce nutrient pollution and restore the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers and streams.

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Chair, Environmental Matters Committee
House Office Building, Room 251
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Opposition for HB208– Environment – Aquaculture-Shellfish Leasing Areas-Expansion

Dear Delegate McIntosh:

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Choptank Tributary Strategy Team in **opposition** to HB208. The Choptank Tributary Team have support numerous efforts to restore and protect the native oyster populations throughout the Chesapeake Bay. The recent establishment of additional oyster sanctuaries offers a great potential towards realizing this goal. The provisions in HB208 to allow oyster aquaculture in oyster sanctuaries are in direct conflict with intended purpose of the sanctuaries to provide for habitat improvement and protection for reestablishing native oyster populations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Wolinski".

Bill Wolinski Vice Chair
Choptank Tributary Team