



Office of the County Executive
STEUART PITTMAN

July 10, 2023

The Hon. Chris Van Hollen
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. John P. Sarbanes
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Van Hollen and Congressman Sarbanes:

I am thrilled to join my fellow local, state, and federal elected officials to support the creation of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area, which will boost our tourism industry, spur economic growth, and showcase one of Maryland's greatest natural and cultural resources.

The Chesapeake Bay is one of the nation's largest and most storied water estuaries that has served as the economic and cultural center of our state for generations. The Bay offers widespread benefits that impact the lives of families, businesses, and tourists across Maryland, as well as our neighbors along the east coast. Many activities in Anne Arundel County rely on our close proximity to the Bay, which creates meaningful recreation opportunities such as boating, fishing, and visiting beautiful Sandy Point State Park, among many others. With the creation of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area, we can expand activities for millions of visitors, build a better community for our residents here at home, and solidify Maryland as a national treasure in tourism and recreation.

States that currently enjoy the benefit of national recreation areas see strong economic growth, generating millions of dollars in numerous industries. Partnering with the National Park Service will significantly boost Maryland's economy and provide critical support to every jurisdiction, including Anne Arundel County.

As County Executive, our mission is to create the best place for all, and legislation establishing the Chesapeake National Recreation Area is a key part of that effort. We look forward to working with every stakeholder to get this legislation passed and move Maryland towards a more prosperous future while protecting and promoting the Chesapeake Bay for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stuart Pittman".

Steuart Pittman
County Executive

The Best Place - For All