



June 25, 2023

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
United States Senate
110 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Van Hollen,

On behalf of the seven-hundred member businesses of the Salisbury area Chamber of Commerce, a regional Chamber, this letter is in support of the creation of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area.

The creation of this National Area will promote environmentally conscious tourism that in turn will support tourism and the economic impacts that benefit from a robust new national tourism attraction. Lodging, restaurants, outdoor recreation enterprises and the businesses that support those entities will all benefit from this designation.

We all acknowledge the economic benefits our existing National Park visitors contribute to local economies. In 2021 that number exceeded \$20.5 billion dollars and the addition of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area will create jobs, new businesses and generate investment in the communities surrounding this National Recreation asset.

The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports your efforts to establish this National Recreation Area which will foster public access to this national treasure while spurring critical economic growth for the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. R. Chambers'.

William R. Chambers
President/CEO

SALISBURY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Voice for Business on Delmarva