



Make Tomorrow Yours

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1101 Camden Avenue

Salisbury, MD 21801-6860

410-543-6011

1-888-543-0148

TTY 410-543-6083

FAX 410-548-2587

www.salisbury.edu

Senator Chris Van Hollen
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Van Hollen,

It is my privilege to provide this letter of recommendation in full support of the establishment of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area (CNRA) as part of the National Park System. I firmly believe this proposed initiative is a crucial step towards preserving the natural beauty and historical significance of the Chesapeake Bay, while promoting education and providing accessible opportunities for recreational activities to the public.

The Chesapeake Bay is one of our nation's natural treasures and is of vital historical and ecological significance. By designating it as a National Recreation Area, we can ensure that generations to come have the opportunity to learn about and appreciate the unique cultural and natural heritage of the area.

Educational initiatives within the recreation area can serve as a living classroom, inspiring students and visitors to become stewards of the environment. By raising awareness of the delicate balance between human activities and the health of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, the National Recreation Area can foster a sense of responsibility and a commitment to sustainable practices among visitors and local communities.

One of the most compelling aspects of the CNRA is its commitment to providing accessible opportunities for recreation to individuals from all walks of life. With millions of people living just miles from the shores of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed, the establishment of this recreation area would serve as a sanctuary for many, offering a multitude of outdoor activities like hiking, wildlife watching, boating, and fishing.

This proposal has the potential for connecting existing local, state, and federal parks and trails, thereby creating an extensive network of accessible spaces that people of all ages and physical abilities can enjoy. By providing



Make Tomorrow Yours

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1101 Camden Avenue

Salisbury, MD 21801-6860

410-543-6011

1-888-543-0148

TTY 410-543-6083

FAX 410-548-2587

www.salisbury.edu

inclusive facilities and amenities, CNRA will ensure everyone can experience the tranquility and wonder of this breathtaking region.

The creation of the CNRA would be a significant and invaluable addition to the National Park System and will foster a deeper appreciation for the natural and cultural heritage of the Chesapeake Bay region.

I am pleased and honored to recommend the creation and designation of a unified Chesapeake National Recreation Area as part of the National Park System. By preserving this iconic area, we can leave a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy, cherish, and protect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn R. Lepre".

Dr. Carolyn R. Lepre
President