

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express our support for efforts to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay. Specifically, we request that you include \$73 million for the Chesapeake Bay Program in your Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request.

The Chesapeake Bay is the largest estuary in the United States and a true national treasure. A commercial and recreational resource for millions, the Chesapeake Bay is a significant economic engine in the region, driving tourists to the area and helping sustain jobs in local fisheries, in commerce, and more.

Since the Chesapeake Bay Program's formation in 1983, significant progress has been made, with six states and the District of Columbia, 19 federal agencies, nearly 1,800 local governments, over 20 academic institutions, and more than 60 non-governmental organizations working together to implement state developed plans to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Through these state developed plans, the Chesapeake Bay Program is helping improve water quality, protect and restore the Bay's ecosystem, protect watersheds, and foster continued stewardship of the Bay and its watershed.

Through the Chesapeake Bay Program, the Chesapeake Bay's health is improving significantly. However, without continued collaboration among stakeholders this progress would be threatened. We must ensure that this important work continues, and that federal funds continue to be available to support this effort. To ensure continued progress in restoring the Chesapeake Bay, we urge you to include \$73 million for the Chesapeake Bay Program in your Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request.

Sincerely,



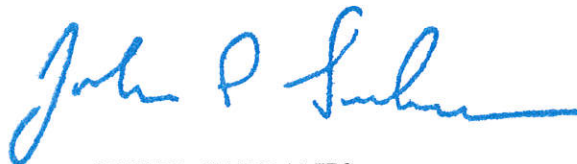
ROBERT J. WITTMAN  
Member of Congress



ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
Member of Congress



ANDY HARRIS, M.D.  
Member of Congress



JOHN P. SARBANES  
Member of Congress



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A. DONALD MCEACHIN  
Member of Congress



SCOTT TAYLOR  
Member of Congress