



Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator-Maryland
509 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cardin,

Blue Water Baltimore would like to thank you for your continued commitment to improving water quality in the Chesapeake Bay with the introduction of S. 1514 the Hunting Heritage and Environmental Legacy Preservation (HELP) for Wildlife Act. We value your leadership to strengthen S. 1514 to include key provisions for the Bay - including reauthorizing the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program at \$90 million for 5 years and the reauthorization of the Chesapeake Gateways Grant Assistance Program for 5 years.

As you are aware the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation plays a key role in administering grant programs in the Chesapeake which are critical to implementation of many of Blue Water Baltimore's programming. Reauthorization of the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation ensures our organization will have the opportunity to implement key stormwater management practices here in Baltimore to protect all of our Baltimore watersheds while improving the quality of life for all Baltimore City residents.

We fill a unique role in the Baltimore area as we use a holistic set of programs to meet the great challenges of improving water quality. As the new Executive Director, I am thrilled to be working for an organization that utilizes practices from arts and education, to stormwater management projects, to legal and legislative advocacy to effect change on the ground and is passionate about citizen engagement to build awareness on the impact of pollution.

As 2017 has brought about a new set of policy challenges, our organization is reassured to know we have strong Chesapeake Bay advocates on the Hill working to ensure our Bay continues to grow healthier. Thank you again for your commitment to Baltimore City, the state of Maryland, and the Chesapeake Bay!

Kindest Regards,

Jenn Aiosa
Executive Director
Blue Water Baltimore