THE CHESAPEAKE BAY
SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT (SEEE) ACT

SPONSORED BY
REPS. SARBANES, WITTMAN, KIGGANS & SCOTT (VA)

The Chesapeake Bay Science, Education and Ecosystem Enhancement (SEEE) Act strengthens NOAA's commitment to the Chesapeake Bay and provides NOAA with resources to support ongoing federal, state and local efforts to restore the Bay, manage fisheries and habitat restoration, and provide environmental education opportunities.

Specifically, the Chesapeake Bay SEEE Act would:

- **Reauthorize the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (CBO), which has been a leading partner in the Bay restoration effort and fishery community.** The bill allows NOAA CBO to collaborate with universities, nonprofits and other stakeholders to promote integrated coastal observations, including monitoring and observing restoration activities in the Bay; collecting and analyzing data related to marine resources; and organizing information for use by policymakers, resource managers and the public.

- **Direct NOAA to support coordinated management, protection, characterization and restoration of Bay habitats and living resources**, as well as the Interpretive Buoy System along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

- **Authorize the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program**, which awards education grants to better connect residents to the Bay and its restoration.

- **Provide critical resources for NOAA CBO to fulfill its mission and enhance the Chesapeake Bay region.** The bill **includes a four-year reauthorization,** from FY2024 through FY2027, starting at $17 million and increasing to $22.627 million by FY2027.

ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS
Chesapeake Bay Commission, Chesapeake Bay Foundation,
Chesapeake Conservancy, Choose Clean Water Coalition

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