
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 110 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY YAW, MAY 9, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 9, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Chesapeake Bay
2 Foundation and commending the foundation for five decades of
3 outstanding public service to the Chesapeake Bay and the
4 surrounding region.

5 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, a
6 nonprofit, multistate organization with headquarters in
7 Annapolis, Maryland, opened its first office in 1967 with an
8 inspiring, ambitious mission statement to "Save the Bay"; and

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth provides half of the fresh water
10 that flows into the Chesapeake Bay; and

11 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation opened its office in
12 Pennsylvania in 1986 to assist in the cleanup and restoration of
13 this Commonwealth's rivers and streams; and

14 WHEREAS, From its inception, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation
15 has offered private citizens opportunities to support and
16 participate directly in the protection and restoration of its
17 namesake estuary and the rivers and streams that flow into it;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's presence has

1 expanded to include offices in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania,
2 Richmond, Virginia, Hampton Roads, Virginia, and Washington, DC,
3 and 15 education centers in the 3 primary bay states and
4 Washington, DC; and

5 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's total membership
6 recently surpassed 236,000, including more than 33,000 members
7 in Pennsylvania, 70,000 members in Virginia, 86,000 members in
8 Maryland and 5,000 members in Washington, DC; and

9 WHEREAS, With the support of private and public funding, the
10 Chesapeake Bay Foundation's environmental education programs
11 reach more than 35,000 students, teachers, administrators and
12 policymakers each year, providing meaningful on-the-water field
13 trip experiences, teacher training, curriculum materials,
14 restoration programs and real-world views that have inspired
15 generations of citizens to become lifelong stewards of the
16 Chesapeake Bay; and

17 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's steadfast 50-year
18 dedication to science-based public policy to "Save the Bay" has
19 supported the development of the Chesapeake Clean Water
20 Blueprint; and

21 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's members and staff
22 advocate effectively for Clean Water Blueprint laws, regulations
23 and programs at every level of government, materially reversing
24 the Chesapeake Bay's decline and initiating a recovery process;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, As part of the recovery process, the Chesapeake Bay
27 Foundation's members and staff advocate effectively in
28 Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland to support enhanced nutrient
29 removal to upgrade wastewater treatment plant processes,
30 resulting in major water quality gains; and

1 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation partners with Federal
2 and state agricultural and environmental agencies to assist
3 Chesapeake watershed farmers in the implementation of
4 conservation measures to protect water quality in rivers and
5 streams and to enhance the health and productivity of family
6 farms; and

7 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Pennsylvania office
8 was instrumental in the creation of the Pennsylvania Resource
9 Enhancement and Protection Program and worked collaboratively
10 with State agencies and the General Assembly on the enactment of
11 the Commonwealth's Nutrient Management Act; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation works with state and
13 local government officials, businesses, developers and residents
14 to establish effective and innovative programs addressing the
15 complex issue of stormwater runoff pollution; and

16 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's fisheries program
17 contributes materially to conservation and sustainable
18 management of striped bass, blue crabs, oysters, menhaden and
19 shad in the Chesapeake Bay and along the Atlantic coast; and

20 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a leader in oyster
21 restoration in Maryland and Virginia, operating oyster
22 restoration centers to educate and involve citizen volunteers in
23 restoring the native oyster population in the Chesapeake Bay by
24 growing more than 280 million live oysters and transplanting
25 them onto state oyster reefs with the assistance of
26 approximately 280,000 hours of labor donated by more than 10,000
27 volunteers; and

28 WHEREAS, Since 1997, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's
29 Pennsylvania office has been a leader in implementing
30 innovative, science-based watershed restoration and has worked

1 with more than 5,000 landowners in restoring more than 2,500
2 miles of forested riparian buffers and placing hundreds of other
3 conservation practices on Pennsylvania farms; and

4 WHEREAS, Chesapeake Bay Foundation staff, partner
5 organizations and more than 6,800 school students, families and
6 individual volunteers have successfully completed hundreds of
7 conservation projects in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West
8 Virginia, Delaware and Washington, DC, including restoring more
9 than 6,300 acres of wetlands, 20,900 acres of forested buffers
10 and 2,500 miles of stream buffers, while installing more than
11 1,400 conservation best management practices on working farms
12 and planting more than 2,300,000 trees; and

13 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Susquehanna
14 Watershed Environmental Education Program, established in 1991,
15 acquaints students and others with local rivers and streams to
16 emphasize their importance in daily life through more than 2,000
17 programs involving approximately 45,000 students and teachers in
18 its spring and fall Environmental Education Days; and

19 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Student Leadership
20 Council, located in Pennsylvania, inspires student leaders by
21 providing them with unique environmental educational experiences
22 while assisting in the development of their personal voices as
23 advocates for clean water; and

24 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation Mentors in
25 Agricultural Conservation's job-shadowing program prepares
26 students for potential careers in agriculture; and

27 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation won the President's
28 1992 Environment and Conservation Challenge Award and the 1993
29 National Geographic Society's Chairman's Award, two of the
30 nation's highest environmental honors, and the Good Steward

1 Award from the Arbor Day Foundation's 2016 National Awards
2 Competition; and

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation received the
4 prestigious Pennsylvania Governor's Award for Environmental
5 Excellence in 2016 for assisting landowners in the planting of
6 thousands of trees, reducing the pollution of rivers and streams
7 and improving water quality in this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation has led the efforts to
9 "Save the Bay" for 50 years and dedicates itself to the
10 restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay, a national
11 treasure and the Mid-Atlantic region's greatest natural
12 resource; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
14 Chesapeake Bay Foundation on its 50th anniversary and commend
15 the foundation for five decades of outstanding public service to
16 the Chesapeake Bay and the surrounding region; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the House of
18 Representatives prepare a copy of this resolution for
19 presentation to William C. Baker, President of the Chesapeake
20 Bay Foundation, as an expression of gratitude for the
21 foundation's outstanding efforts on behalf of the residents of
22 this Commonwealth and the entire Chesapeake Bay watershed.