

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

2 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a tri-state  
3 government entity of the legislative branches of the  
4 Commonwealth and the states of Maryland and Virginia, required  
5 by current statute to assist, advise, recommend and "enhance the  
6 functions, powers, and duties" of each state's General Assembly  
7 regarding Chesapeake Bay law and policy; and

8 WHEREAS, Chesapeake Bay Commission member state delegations  
9 are comprised of seven members, with two members representing  
10 each senate, three members representing each house, one member  
11 representing each governor and one member representing the  
12 citizens-at-large; and

13 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a bipartisan,  
14 objective entity tasked with identifying concerns requiring  
15 interjurisdictional coordination and cooperation, collecting,  
16 analyzing and disseminating information pertaining to the region  
17 and its resources for the respective legislative bodies,

1 recommending legislative and administrative actions necessary to  
2 encourage effective and cooperative management of the Chesapeake  
3 Bay and representing the common interests of the member states  
4 as they are affected by the activities of the Federal  
5 Government; and

6 WHEREAS, The chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Commission is a  
7 member of the Chesapeake Executive Council and signatory of the  
8 Chesapeake Bay agreements, representing the legislative branches  
9 of the member states; and

10 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Commission serves as the official  
11 legislative arm of the multijurisdictional Chesapeake Bay  
12 Program and is the designated regional liaison to the Congress  
13 of the United States for Chesapeake Bay law and policy; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Commission first convened on  
15 December 17, 1980, and in the four decades since has championed  
16 important legislative and policy initiatives at the Federal and  
17 state level, including bi-state blue crab management, nutrient  
18 management, agricultural conservation funding and open space  
19 preservation, among other issues and initiatives; and

20 WHEREAS, These initiatives have contributed to noticeable  
21 signs of improvement in the Chesapeake Bay, despite significant  
22 growth of the human population in the watershed over the same  
23 time period; and

24 WHEREAS, The role of the Chesapeake Bay Commission is even  
25 more necessary today as its member states face a 2025 deadline  
26 to achieve nutrient and sediment reduction goals for the  
27 Chesapeake Bay; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate commend the Chesapeake Bay  
29 Commission, a model of effective interstate and  
30 intergovernmental relations and policymaking, on the occasion of

1 its 40th anniversary.

