
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 231 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY EVERETT, KINSEY, PASHINSKI, HENNESSEY, BIZZARRO,
READSHAW, STURLA, SCHWEYER, WARD, MILLARD, BARRAR, O'NEILL,
MURT, VITALI, MARSICO, D. COSTA, O'BRIEN, MENTZER, WHEELAND,
CALTAGIRONE, ZIMMERMAN, ROEBUCK AND GILLEN, APRIL 10, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 10, 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;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's presence has
3 expanded to include offices in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania,
4 Richmond, Virginia, Hampton Roads, Virginia, and Washington, DC,
5 and 15 education centers in the 3 primary bay states and
6 Washington, DC; and

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

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

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

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

28 WHEREAS, As part of the recovery process, the Chesapeake Bay
29 Foundation's members and staff advocate effectively in
30 Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland to support enhanced nutrient

1 removal to upgrade wastewater treatment plant processes,
2 resulting in major water quality gains; and

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

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

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

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

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

30 WHEREAS, Since 1997, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's

1 Pennsylvania office has been a leader in implementing
2 innovative, science-based watershed restoration and has worked
3 with more than 5,000 landowners in restoring more than 2,500
4 miles of forested riparian buffers and placing hundreds of other
5 conservation practices on Pennsylvania farms; and

6 WHEREAS, Chesapeake Bay Foundation staff, partner
7 organizations and more than 6,800 school students, families and
8 individual volunteers have successfully completed hundreds of
9 conservation projects in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West
10 Virginia, Delaware and Washington, DC, including restoring more
11 than 6,300 acres of wetlands, 20,900 acres of forested buffers
12 and 2,500 miles of stream buffers, while installing more than
13 1,400 conservation best management practices on working farms
14 and planting more than 2,300,000 trees; and

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

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

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

29 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation won the President's
30 1992 Environment and Conservation Challenge Award and the 1993

1 National Geographic Society's Chairman's Award, two of the
2 nation's highest environmental honors, and the Good Steward
3 Award from the Arbor Day Foundation's 2016 National Awards
4 Competition; and

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

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

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

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