

namely, the protection of the valuable wetland areas; and

WHEREAS, The Act does not include types 6, 7, and 8 wetlands, which are inland fresh wetlands; and

WHEREAS, Inland fresh wetlands comprise a large percentage of Maryland's wetlands; and

WHEREAS, The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into ten year agreements with landowners and operators for protection of specified wetlands, effective July 1, 1971; and

WHEREAS, There is a clause allowing renewal for additional ten year periods; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary will reimburse, according to a payment schedule he establishes, those owners and operators who agree not to burn, drain, fill, or otherwise destroy the wetlands areas, and not use these areas for agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS, The rate may be increased if the owners or operators agree to permit, without other compensation, public access for hunting, trapping, fishing, and hiking; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary is authorized to share the cost of establishing and maintaining conservation and development practices on the wetlands and adjacent areas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly requests the Maryland Congressional Delegation to amend the Federal Water Bank Act to include types 6, 7, and 8 wetlands, which are inland fresh wetlands; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland Congressional Delegation at the following addresses: United State Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and House of Representatives, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Approved March 28, 1974.