

House Bill No. 1998 - Potomac River - Low Flow Allocation
in Defined Portion

AN ACT concerning

Potomac River - Low Flow Allocation in Defined Portion

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Governor and the Secretary of Natural Resources to sign on behalf of the State a binding and enforceable agreement with the Secretary of the Army, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the Fairfax County Water Authority, and the District of Columbia, providing an enforceable schedule for allocation among the parties to such agreement for the withdrawal of the waters of that portion of the Potomac River located between Little Falls Dam and the farthest upstream limit of the pool of water behind the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company rubble dam at Seneca, Maryland during periods of low flow in that portion of the River; providing for an "environmental flow by" maintaining environmental conditions and balancing such needs against essential human, industrial, and domestic requirements for water; and authorizing the Governor and Secretary of Natural Resources to sign any subsequent amendments to the agreement mutually agreed upon by the United States, the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia.

May 29, 1978

Honorable John Hanson Eriscoe
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1998.

This bill authorizes the Governor and the Secretary of Natural Resources to sign an agreement with the Secretary of the Army, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the Fairfax County Water Authority, and the District of Columbia, providing for the withdrawal of waters from the Potomac River during periods of low flow.

Senate Bill 1184, which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 16, 1978, accomplishes the same purpose.