

House Bill 361 is virtually identical to my Executive Order 01.01.2005.25. The Executive Order, issued May 16, 2005, rescinded Executive Order 01.01.2003.08 by establishing a successor Committee to the "Wolman Committee", which filed its report on May 28, 2004. The new Committee will continue the work of the Wolman Committee by studying relevant issues relating to water resources, including conservation and protection of water resources and the adequacy of government regulations relating to water resource management. This Committee will report its findings by July 1, 2006.

House Bill 361 is not necessary as a result of my Executive Order.

For the above stated reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 361.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

House Bill No. 361

AN ACT concerning

Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources

FOR the purpose of establishing an Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources; providing for the membership and duties of the Committee; providing for the appointment of the chair of the Committee; providing for the staffing of the Committee; prohibiting a member of the Committee from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the Committee to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Committee to report to the General Assembly by a certain date; requiring the Committee to include a certain recommendation in its report to the General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of an Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources.

Preamble

WHEREAS, Marylanders use almost 1.5 billion gallons of fresh water each day; and

WHEREAS, Drought, pollution, population growth, inadequate planning and infrastructure, and incomplete information about water sources and population growth can all threaten the quality and quantity of Maryland's water resources; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 01.01.2003.08 established the Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources to advise and assist the State in implementing programs and policies relating to the management, development, conservation, and protection of the State's water resources; and

WHEREAS, The Committee submitted a final report to the Governor on May 28, 2004; and