

(13) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Interstate Commission of the Potomac River Basin;

(14) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission;

(15) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission;

(16) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission;

(17) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission;

(18) The Maryland Membership Unit of the Interstate Mining Commission; [and]

(19) The Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board[.];  
AND

(20) THE CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION.

SUBTITLE 18. CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA PROTECTION PROGRAM.

8-1801.

(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

(1) THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES ARE NATURAL RESOURCES OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO THE STATE AND THE NATION;

(2) THE SHORELINE AND ADJACENT LANDS CONSTITUTE A VALUABLE, FRAGILE, AND SENSITIVE PART OF THIS ESTUARINE SYSTEM, WHERE HUMAN ACTIVITY CAN HAVE A PARTICULARLY IMMEDIATE AND ADVERSE IMPACT ON WATER QUALITY-- AND NATURAL HABITATS--AND ~~SEE NIE-QUALITIES~~;

(3) THE CAPACITY OF THESE SHORELINE AND ADJACENT LANDS TO WITHSTAND THE CONTINUING DEMANDS UPON THEM, WITHOUT FURTHER DEGRADATION TO WATER QUALITY-- AND NATURAL HABITATS--AND ~~SEE NIE-QUALITIES~~; IS LIMITED;

(4) NATIONAL STUDIES HAVE DOCUMENTED THAT THE QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF THE WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES HAVE DECLINED DUE TO THE CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITY THAT HAVE CAUSED INCREASED LEVELS OF POLLUTANTS, NUTRIENTS, AND TOXICS IN THE BAY SYSTEM AND DECLINES IN MORE PROTECTIVE LAND USES SUCH AS FORESTLAND AND AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE BAY REGION;

(5) THOSE PORTIONS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES WITHIN MARYLAND ARE PARTICULARLY STRESSED BY THE CONTINUING POPULATION GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY