

effect January 1, 1985 and, except as otherwise specifically provided above, shall remain in effect until the effective date of any legislation enacted by the General Assembly with respect to the allocation of the Maryland State Ceiling. However, if such legislation authorizes the Governor to establish a formula and procedures for the allocation of the Maryland State Ceiling, then this Proclamation shall remain in effect, if this Proclamation complies with the requirements of such legislation, until the Governor rescinds or cancels this Proclamation.

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EXECUTIVE ORDER OF JANUARY 17, 1985

01.01.1985.02

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

- WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is our most precious natural resource as it is the largest and most productive estuary in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, The bounty and beauty of the Chesapeake Bay are integral to Maryland's history, economy, culture and way of life; and
- WHEREAS, The recently completed seven-year, \$27 million U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Chesapeake Bay Study of the health of the Bay has confirmed that certain pollutants, nutrients and toxics, are adversely threatening the vitality of the Chesapeake Bay and its living resources, such as sensitive finfish and shellfish species; and
- WHEREAS, Evidence revealed through the Bay Study suggests that the evolution of the Bay ecosystem is at a critical point, productivity has peaked, and is now declining; and
- WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has worked in concert with the States of Virginia, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a regional partnership to implement an action plan of corrective strategies to reverse the trends identified by EPA; and
- WHEREAS, Within Maryland the Departments of Natural Resources, Health and Mental Hygiene, Agriculture and State Planning worked together to develop far reaching budgetary, programmatic and legislative initiatives addressing pollution control, resource restoration and enhancement, land management, and institutional improvement issues, which ultimately became known as "Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Program"; and
- WHEREAS, In 1984 the Maryland General Assembly enacted the first