

phase of this multi-year Chesapeake Bay program encompassing ten pieces of legislation and a significant financial commitment; and

WHEREAS, The University of Maryland is the principal research organization of the State of Maryland and has special expertise in the Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies, the Sea Grant College, the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Cooperative Extension Service, and various economic departments that are relevant to the research and important to the preservation and quality of the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, An increased public consciousness for the health and vitality of the Chesapeake Bay has emerged, and has expressed a collective resolve, affirmed by the Maryland General Assembly, to pursue a new era of enhanced Bay management; and

WHEREAS, There is a continuing need for Maryland State government to coordinate those planning and management activities necessary to the Bay restoration effort, to develop an annual implementation plan for the Bay, and to evaluate periodically the effectiveness of State and local programs in addressing water quality improvement and aquatic resource restoration goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY HUGHES, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, DO HEREBY ISSUE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER:

1. The Governor's Council on the Chesapeake Bay is hereby created to provide advice to the Governor on matters related to the management of the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding areas and to promote interagency coordination and integration of Chesapeake Bay related programs.
2. The Council shall consist of the Secretary of Natural Resources, Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of State Planning, and the President of the University of Maryland. The Governor shall appoint a chairman from among the members of the Council. The Chairmanship shall be rotated annually.
3. The Council shall meet on a continuing and periodic basis and shall receive information, review and discuss issues of Chesapeake Bay management, and provide information and recommendations as appropriate concerning:
 - (a) Progress in meeting the annual Statewide implementation plan;