

saved \$4.4 million because fewer chemicals were needed to remove phosphorous from the water; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes the importance of continuing the ban on phosphates and repealing the termination date; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 526 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1985, as amended by Chapter 5 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1986

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1985. [It shall remain in effect until December 1, 1989 and, at the end of December 1, 1989, and with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1988.

Approved May 27, 1988.

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CHAPTER 538

(Senate Bill 262)

AN ACT concerning

Patuxent River Nutrient Removal

FOR the purpose of requiring certain sewage treatment plants, by a certain deadline, to reduce to a certain level the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus in certain wastewater effluent discharged by those plants into the Patuxent River and its tributaries; requiring certain sewage treatment plants to complete certain plans by a certain date; requiring the Department of the Environment to impose against and collect from certain sewage treatment plants certain penalties for the discharge of nitrogen and phosphorus in violation of this Act; authorizing the penalty to be waived under certain circumstances; providing for the construction and application of this Act; and generally relating to the removal of certain nutrients from the wastewater effluent of certain sewage treatment plants discharged into the Patuxent River and its tributaries.