

(G) THE AUTHORITY SHALL FILE AN ANNUAL REPORT BY JANUARY 1 TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE FORM REQUIRED IN § 2-1312 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1989. It shall remain effective for a period of three years and, at the end of June 30, 1992, and with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION -4- 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1989.

Approved May 19, 1989.

CHAPTER 536

(Senate Bill 481)

AN ACT concerning

Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act

FOR the purpose of establishing a statewide program for the conservation, enhancement, and regulation of nontidal wetlands in this State; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to assist local governments in undertaking nontidal wetland management planning; requiring the Department to prepare and adopt certain guidance maps for nontidal wetlands; authorizing the Department to delegate certain authority to a county under certain circumstances; requiring certain agricultural and forestry activities to meet certain requirements; requiring a person to obtain a permit for certain regulated activities in a nontidal wetland; providing certain exemptions; providing for certain application procedures; requiring the Department, by a certain date, to designate by regulation nontidal wetlands for which a certain buffer is to be expanded; setting forth certain--legislative--intent--for--the--establishment--of establishing certain timelines for acting on permit applications; establishing certain standards for issuance of a permit; providing for certain mitigation for nontidal wetland losses; establishing a Nontidal Wetland Compensation Fund to be used for certain purposes; providing for certain enforcement provisions; requiring the Department, in consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to develop a certain joint nontidal wetlands permit application for certain purposes; applying certain standards for a