11, 2000, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 331.

Sincerely, Parris N. Glendening Governor

House Bill No. 331

AN ACT concerning

Business and Economic Development <u>Environment</u> - Brownfields Revitalization Incentive <u>Program and Voluntary Cleanup Programs</u>

FOR the purpose of altering certain definitions relating to the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program in the Department of Business and Economic Development; expanding the purpose of the Program; providing for the eligibility for financial incentives under the Program; authorizing grants for environmental assessments under certain conditions; providing that a certain determination or finding made under this Act that a responsible person did not cause or contribute to certain contamination does not affect and may not be construct to affect any tort action against any person, or any third party action for recovery of removal costs; the requirement that for a brownfields site to be eligible for certain financial incentives the site must be located in a jurisdiction that has elected to participate in the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program; authorizing the Department of Business and Economic Development to provide certain loans and grants to certain persons for the environmental site assessment of certain brownfields sites; requiring the repayment of certain grants under certain circumstances; providing that certain low-interest loans convert to market rate loans under certain circumstances; providing for the ownership of the information contained in certain environmental site assessments; providing for the application of certain provisions; authorizing the Department of Business and Economic Development to establish certain procedures and eligibility requirements for these loans and grants; requiring that certain moneys deposited by certain jurisdictions into the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Fund be used to provide incentives for qualified brownfields sites in certain jurisdictions that enacted certain tax credit ordinances; altering the definition of "brownfields site" to include properties for which there exists certain innocent purchasers; altering the requirements for jurisdictions electing to provide certain property tax credits for certain property; providing for a certain contingency; and generally relating to the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program and Voluntary Cleanup programs.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development

Section 3-901, 3-902(b), and 3-903(e) 3-902, and 3-905

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)