SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor shall include an appropriation of at least \$250,000 in the State budget for fiscal year 2003 for the provisions of this Act.

SECTION $\frac{2}{2}$. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

Approved May 16, 2002.

CHAPTER 564

(House Bill 1229)

AN ACT concerning

Environment - Permits - Contested Case Hearings

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to transmit a request for a contested case hearing to the Office of Administrative Hearings within a certain time period; requiring certain contested case hearings to be concluded and closed within a certain time period; requiring the administrative law judge to issue certain decisions within a certain time period; authorizing the extension of certain deadlines under certain circumstances; providing for the finality of certain decisions; providing that certain deadlines are mandatory and not directory; requiring the administrative law judge to dismiss certain requests for a contested case hearing under certain circumstances; requiring the administrative law judge to rule on certain motions within a certain time period; providing that certain decisions made by an administrative law judge under certain circumstances are not appealable; providing that certain decisions made by an administrative law judge under certain circumstances are final decisions and appealable; repealing certain provisions of law relating to the certain contested cases; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to contested case hearings for permits issued by the Department of the Environment.

BY repealing

Article - Environment

Section 1-606

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Environment

Section 1-605

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY adding to