

Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 247

AN ACT concerning

Atlantic Coastal Bays Protection Act

FOR the purpose of preserving, protecting, and improving the water quality and natural habitats of the Atlantic Coastal Bays and certain tributaries and streams by designating certain lands and waters as critical areas that require especially sensitive consideration with regard to development; making certain legislative findings; renaming the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission to be the Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays; defining certain terms; ~~adding members representing the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed to altering the membership of the Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays;~~ authorizing the Commission to establish a certain Advisory Committee; designating certain areas of lands and waters to be included in the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area, subject to exclusion of certain types of land after certain findings are made; ~~requiring that every part of the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area be subject to an approved Critical Area Protection Program by a certain date;~~ requiring the Governor of Maryland to include a certain amount of funds in the budget for certain purposes; *requiring certain local programs to classify certain areas as intensely developed areas; of this Act;* ~~requiring each local jurisdiction under this Act to submit certain information to the Commission on or before a certain date~~ providing for the calculation and utilization of certain growth allocations by certain local jurisdictions under certain circumstances; requiring local jurisdictions in the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area to include certain elements a certain element in their local program; authorizing local jurisdictions in the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area to include certain elements in their local program; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to provide certain assistance to local jurisdictions in the preparation of certain maps or studies; clarifying that agricultural activities are allowed in certain areas in accordance with certain requirements *under a certain circumstance;* establishing certain requirements for the Commission and for a local jurisdiction located in the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed but not in the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area relating to minimum stream buffers; requiring a certain local jurisdiction to submit certain information to the Commission on or before a certain date; establishing certain requirements for a local jurisdiction in the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area relating to the development of a local critical area program; requiring certain local jurisdictions to submit to the Commission on or before a certain date certain information relating to the jurisdiction's intent to establish a local critical area program; requiring certain public hearings during program development by a local jurisdiction and during program development or approval by the Commission; requiring that a local jurisdiction review its program within a certain time period and providing that within that certain