

(2) coordinate Program funds with Maryland Agricultural Cost share funds and other appropriate State funds in order best to leverage federal funds for water quality improvement and nutrient removal, and for habitat restoration and buffer creation on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor is requested to take the steps necessary to target funding received by the State under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to farms, located in watersheds that contribute to water bodies and basin segments listed as impaired by nutrients by the State under § 303 of the federal Clean Water Act, that implement nutrient management plans in accordance with this Act.

SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor is requested to support and fund, in cooperation with the private sector and appropriate public agencies, continuing research into management and remediation of phosphorous as a nutrient derived from animal waste and as a pollutant, including:

- (1) The development of a reliable phosphorous index;
- (2) Composting and incineration of animal waste and litter;
- (3) Marketing and transportation of products derived from animal waste and litter; and
- (4) Commercial animal feed management and additives that may reduce phosphorus deposition in animal waste.

SECTION 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Agriculture is requested to submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, by January 1, 2001 on the Poultry Litter Transportation Pilot Project established under this Act. The report shall include information on the participation levels in the Pilot Project, the amount of litter transported, and the amount of funds raised and distributed. The report shall also evaluate the potential economic impact on farmers if the Pilot Project is terminated.

SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) By December 1 of each year, the University System of Maryland shall report to the Nutrient Management Advisory Committee, the Governor, and in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

- (1) The latest developments in phosphorus mitigation, including the effectiveness of phytase and other enzymes, genetically engineered corn, soil additives, and other innovations; and
- (2) For targeted areas determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, background levels of phosphorus in the soil, current levels of phosphorus in the soil, and the movement of phosphorus in and on the land.

(b) In preparing the report, the University System of Maryland shall coordinate the activities at member institutions and consult with the agricultural