

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

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1999 Regular Session  
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By: **Delegates Walkup, W. Baker, Guns, Eckardt, Cane, Greenip, Boschert, Bozman, McClenahan, Hubbard, Franchot, Rosso, Cadden, Pitkin, Weir, Clagett, D'Amato, Conway, Leopold, and Rzepkowski**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 30, 1999

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RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Aberdeen Proving Ground as a Dredge Spoil Disposal Site**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the President of the United States and the Secretary of the  
4 Department of Defense to involve Aberdeen Proving Ground in the planning and  
5 disposal of dredge spoil removed from the shipping channels of the Port of  
6 Baltimore.

7 WHEREAS, The welfare of the Port of Baltimore is dependent upon maintaining  
8 the existing width and depth of the shipping channels of the Port of Baltimore, which  
9 involves dredging 4 million cubic yards of material annually in Maryland waters of  
10 the Chesapeake Bay; and

11 WHEREAS, Dredged material placement needs in the State are well in excess of  
12 existing disposal site capacity, and the State urgently requires new dredged material  
13 placement sites; and

14 WHEREAS, It is imperative that the environmental integrity of the Chesapeake  
15 Bay be maintained; and

16 WHEREAS, The U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground, comprising an  
17 area of 72,516 acres, is located on the Chesapeake Bay, approximately 30 miles north  
18 of the Harbor of the City of Baltimore and 20 miles from channels that are in need of  
19 dredging; and

20 WHEREAS, Aberdeen Proving Ground has played an important role in the  
21 well-being of the State of Maryland and the upper bay region by employing over  
22 10,000 citizens of the State and contributing over \$600 million to the economy of our  
23 State; and

1     WHEREAS, Aberdeen Proving Ground plays a vital role in providing a strong,  
2 secure defense for the entire country, and its continued presence and employment  
3 base is important to all the citizens of Maryland; and

4     WHEREAS, The Aberdeen Proving Ground has long been involved in and  
5 worked with neighboring communities to resolve problems affecting those  
6 communities, as well as Maryland counties whenever possible; and

7     WHEREAS, Aberdeen Proving Ground is a significant presence in the Upper  
8 Chesapeake Bay and plays an active role in the uses of the natural resources in the  
9 area; and

10    WHEREAS, Aberdeen Proving Ground is deemed a logical site for the disposal of  
11 dredge spoil from the waters of the Chesapeake Bay in order to maintain the shipping  
12 channels of the Port of Baltimore; now, therefore, be it

13    RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
14 President of the United States and the Secretary of the Department of Defense are  
15 respectfully urged to involve the Aberdeen Proving Ground in the planning and  
16 disposal of dredge spoil from Maryland's extensive shipping channels; and be it  
17 further

18    RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
19 Legislative Services to the President of the United States and the Secretary of the  
20 Department of Defense.