

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

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1999 Regular Session  
9lr2312

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By: **Delegates Eckardt, Bozman, W. Baker, McClenahan, Weir, Linton,  
Hutchins, Guns, Slade, O'Donnell, Mitchell, Cane, and ~~Wood~~ Wood,  
Walkup, Boutin, Stern, and Morhaim**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 1999  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations  
Re-referred to: Environmental Matters, February 24, 1999

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 22, 1999

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

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Shore Erosion Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Shore Erosion Task Force; providing for the  
4 membership of the Task Force; specifying the duties of the Task Force; providing  
5 for staff for the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to certain  
6 committees and the Governor on or before a certain day; and generally relating  
7 to the creation of a Shore Erosion Task Force.

8 WHEREAS, Much of the Chesapeake Bay shore is subject to high level wind and  
9 to water erosion requiring structured wave barriers that currently do not exist; and

10 WHEREAS, Continued global warming, declining fishing industries, and  
11 increasing animal populations impact the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its  
12 tributaries; and

13 WHEREAS, Maryland is losing an estimated 260 acres of the Chesapeake Bay  
14 shore to erosion annually; and

15 WHEREAS, The prevention and maintenance of shore erosion is essential to the  
16 citizens of Maryland to protect the economy and environment, to ensure safety, and to  
17 maintain the quality of life and ecological well-being; and

18 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility to properly protect our environment to the  
19 extent possible, to maintain the livelihood of all citizens, and to improve the quality of  
20 life; and

1 WHEREAS, Local citizen groups and governments have expressed a desire for  
2 ongoing intervention to prevent shore erosion and for a clarification of the roles of  
3 government in preventing shore erosion; and

4 WHEREAS, It is advantageous to involve citizens in the planning for maximum  
5 protection and vitalization of our waterways and shoreline; and

6 WHEREAS, Utilizing the combined efforts of representatives from State and  
7 local government, citizens, and industry to meet and to review the Shore Erosion  
8 program and to make recommendations for a comprehensive plan for Shoreline  
9 Erosion prevention would provide a broad spectrum of solutions; and

10 WHEREAS, A comprehensive Chesapeake Bay shore erosion action plan is  
11 needed to implement a program addressing erosion issues and solutions; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
14 Governor is requested to establish a Shore Erosion Task Force to identify shore  
15 erosion needs by county in Maryland, to clarify local, State, and federal roles  
16 regarding shore erosion, to establish 5- and 10-year plans with target dates and  
17 review, and to review contributing factors to shore erosion; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Task Force be composed of:

19 (1) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
20 the House, and one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
21 the Senate;

22 (2) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or the  
23 Secretary's designee;

24 (3) The Secretary of the Department of the Environment or the  
25 Secretary's designee;

26 (4) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or the Secretary's  
27 designee;

28 (5) One representative from the University of Maryland Center for  
29 ~~Coastal and Estuarian~~ Environmental and Estuarine Studies;

30 (6) One representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;

31 (7) One representative from the Save Our Shore Committee;

32 (8) One representative from the Dorchester County Resource  
33 Preservation and Development Corporation; and

34 (9) Two individuals with interest or experience with shore erosion issues;  
35 and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Governor designate the Chairman of the Task Force from  
2 among the members of the Task Force; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be staffed by the Department of Natural  
4 Resources; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Governor encourage the participation of the United  
6 States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers,  
7 and any other relevant federal agency in the Task Force; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report its findings to the Governor, the  
9 Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House  
10 Environmental Matters Committee on or before January 1, 2000; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
12 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;  
13 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and  
14 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
17 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.  
18 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;  
19 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,  
20 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and  
21 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.