
By: **Delegate Owings**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Director of Water Response - Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Director of Water Response under the
4 Department of Natural Resources; requiring the Director to be responsible for
5 the implementation and oversight of certain State activities; requiring the
6 Director to perform certain duties; authorizing the Secretary of Natural
7 Resources to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally
8 relating to the Director of Water Response.

9 BY adding to
10 Article - Natural Resources
11 Section 1-211
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Natural Resources**

17 1-211.

18 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "WATER RESPONSE" MEANS ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE
19 DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE, OR ANY OTHER UNIT OF STATE
20 OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT RELATE TO EMERGENCIES AND OTHER SITUATIONS
21 IN THE WATERS OF THE STATE, AS DEFINED IN § 8-101(G) OF THIS ARTICLE.

22 (B) THERE IS A DIRECTOR OF WATER RESPONSE UNDER THE NATURAL
23 RESOURCES POLICE FORCE.

24 (C) THE DIRECTOR OF WATER RESPONSE SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
25 IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT OF ALL STATE WATER RESPONSE ACTIVITIES
26 PERFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE, AND ANY
27 OTHER UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

28 (D) THE DIRECTOR OF WATER RESPONSE SHALL:

1 (1) COORDINATE STATE ON-SITE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES
2 RELATING TO A WATER RESPONSE SITUATION;

3 (2) ESTABLISH A CENTRAL OFFICE TO ORGANIZE, IMPLEMENT, AND
4 OVERSEE A STATE RESPONSE TO A WATER RESPONSE SITUATION;

5 (3) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STATE TRAINING FOR A WATER
6 RESPONSE SITUATION;

7 (4) CATALOGUE THE EQUIPMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES AVAILABLE
8 FOR A WATER RESPONSE SITUATION; AND

9 (5) DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND TO THE SECRETARY AND THE
10 SECRETARY OF THE STATE POLICE WATER RESPONSE EQUIPMENT NEEDS AND
11 STANDARDS.

12 (E) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT
13 THIS SECTION.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2000.