

BY: Environmental Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1131

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, after “of” insert “providing for certain declarations of intent;”; strike beginning with “and” in line 9 down through “funding” in line 10; in line 20, after “making” insert “certain portions of”; and in line 21, after “contingency;” insert “requiring the Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources to study and develop certain funding mechanisms, report on them to certain committees on or before a certain date, and implement them under certain circumstances;”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 and 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 18 on page 2 through line 9 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT:

(1) IT IS STATE PUBLIC POLICY TO IMPROVE, CONSERVE, AND MANAGE THE QUALITY OF THE WATERS OF THE STATE AND PROTECT, MAINTAIN, AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF WATER FOR PUBLIC SUPPLIES, PROPAGATION OF WILDLIFE, FISH AND AQUATIC LIFE, AND DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL, RECREATIONAL, AND OTHER LEGITIMATE BENEFICIAL USES;

(2) IT IS ALSO THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO PRESERVE VALUABLE OPEN SPACE IN ITS NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL, OR FORESTRY USE, WHICH WILL NOT ONLY HELP CONTAIN SPRAWL DEVELOPMENT BUT WILL ALSO IMPROVE THE WATER QUALITY OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES BY LIMITING POINT AND NONPOINT SOURCES OF POLLUTION AND HELP MEET A GOAL OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AGREEMENT PERMANENTLY TO PROTECT 20% OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED BY 2010;

(Over)

(3) THE PROMOTION OF WATER QUALITY IN THIS STATE IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE PROMOTION OF LAND PRESERVATION, REQUIRING INTEGRATION AND COORDINATION OF THE PLANNING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE WATER AND ASSOCIATED LAND RESOURCES AND INVITING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR PROTECTION OF WATERSHEDS, INCLUDING ACQUISITION OF LAND AND EASEMENTS FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES; AND

(4) NEW FUNDING SOURCES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND LAND PRESERVATION SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE FORM OF MATCHING GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SO AS TO LEVERAGE AND FULLY UTILIZE ALL AVAILABLE MONEYS AND CREATE INCENTIVES THAT WILL ENCOURAGE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN FUNDING FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AND LAND CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION PROJECTS.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 5, in line 9, after “PLAN” insert “AND ANY CONDITIONS PLACED ON THE CONVEYANCE OF THE PROPERTY,”.

On page 6, strike in their entirety lines 13 through 24, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 11, strike in their entirety lines 16 through 27, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources shall collaborate to study and develop viable funding mechanisms, including the leveraging of federal and State funds, to implement State funding to match funding provided by local governments under local land preservation programs under this Act. The departments shall report their findings and recommendations, including any necessary administrative or legislative changes needed to implement these funding mechanisms, on or before October 1, 2002 to the House Appropriations and Environmental Matters committees and the Senate Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs committees. If the departments identify viable funding mechanisms under this section that do not require legislation for implementation, the departments shall implement State matching funds in accordance with those funding mechanisms and other applicable law and shall notify the committees set forth above in this section and the Department of Legislative Services of that implementation.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State shall take the appropriate steps to work in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other appropriate federal agencies to identify and secure financial support from the federal government for local land acquisition and preservation programs under this Act.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 5 of this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Sections 4 and 7 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2002.”.