



CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Policy for the Bay • www.chesbay.us

Written Testimony

Bill Number/Title: HB 94 / Environment – Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund – Use of Funds
Committee: Environment and Transportation
Hearing: January 20, 2021
Position: Support

Background

The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a tri-state legislative commission created by law in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia to advise the members of the three general assemblies on matters of watershed-wide concern. Its fundamental purpose is to assist each assembly to develop legislation and policies that foster the collaborative and practical restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

The Commission has a long history of engagement on policy issues related to the financing of Chesapeake Bay restoration, including issuing multiple reports on the most cost-effective means to restore the watershed.

Position

The Commission supports HB 94. The removal of the limitation on the use of WQRLF loan guarantees to wastewater facilities expands the potential reach and value of the fund for Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration. In a time of limited local, state and federal financial resources, innovated financing techniques become even more important. This expansion of the potential uses of WQRLF loan guarantees is one such innovation that can expedite Bay restoration.