HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 768

Commending the Secretary of Natural Resources, numerous state agencies, local governments, industry associations, citizen groups, conservation organizations, soil and water conservation districts, universities, farmers, and individuals on their efforts in developing the Shenandoah and Potomac River Basin Tributary Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 1997 Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 1997

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has made commitments to the multi-state Chesapeake Bay restoration effort to develop strategies to reduce harmful nutrients flowing into the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and to meet nutrient reduction goals by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the 1996 Session of the General Assembly passed House Bill No. 1411 establishing deadlines for the completion of nutrient reduction plans for all of Virginia's tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay, including a January 1, 1997, deadline for completion of such a strategy for the Shenandoah and Potomac River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia portion of the Shenandoah and Potomac River Basin drains 5,723 square miles of land containing diverse topography, geology, land uses and population densities, all adding to the complexity of the problems and issues to be addressed in finding solutions to reducing the input of nutrients to the basin; and

WHEREAS, the Shenandoah and Potomac River Basin Tributary Nutrient Reduction Strategy was completed on December 31, 1996; and

WHEREAS, the development of the strategy involved the efforts of numerous state agencies, local governments, industry associations, citizen groups, conservation organizations, soil and water conservation districts, universities, farmers, and individuals; and

WHEREAS, the tributary strategy could not have been developed without the efforts, involvement, dedication and long hours of work of these many groups and individuals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Secretary of Natural Resources, the state agencies involved and all those who participated in the development of the Shenandoah and Potomac River Basin Tributary Nutrient Reduction Strategy; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for publication in the Virginia Register so that the Secretary of Natural Resources and the numerous state agencies, local governments, industry associations, citizen groups, conservation organizations, soil and water conservation districts, universities, farmers, and individuals may be recognized for their valuable contributions to the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.