

SENATE BILL 311

C8, M3

01r0933
CF 01r2253

By: **Senators Miller, Klausmeier, Astle, Brochin, DeGrange, Della, Dyson, Exum, Forehand, Frosh, Garagiola, Gladden, Harrington, Jones, Kasemeyer, Kelley, King, Kramer, Lenett, Madaleno, McFadden, Middleton, Peters, Pinsky, Pugh, Raskin, and Robey**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2010

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Chesapeake Conservation Corps**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Chesapeake Conservation Corps as a body politic
4 and corporate; providing for the purposes of the Corps; establishing a Board of
5 Directors of the Corps, with specified membership, officers, duties, and terms;
6 providing for an Executive Director of the Corps, with certain duties and
7 powers; providing that the Attorney General is the legal advisor of the Corps;
8 authorizing the Corps to retain certain staff; providing for the application of
9 certain laws to the Corps and its personnel; establishing the powers of the
10 Corps; requiring the Corps to undertake certain projects for certain purposes;
11 requiring the Corps to develop and implement certain volunteer service
12 programs, including stipend volunteers; authorizing certain educational
13 institutions to assist the Corps in certain manners; encouraging and requiring
14 the Corps to seek assistance from certain sources in developing certain
15 programs; providing that the Corps is exempt from State and local taxes;
16 providing that the books and records of the Corps are subject to audit; requiring
17 the Corps to report each year to certain persons on certain matters; providing
18 for certain funding for the Corps in certain fiscal years from the Environmental
19 Trust Fund; defining certain terms; making stylistic changes; providing for the
20 initial terms of the members of the Board; and generally relating to the
21 Chesapeake Conservation Corps.

22 BY renumbering

23 Article – Natural Resources

24 Section 8–1901 through 8–1909, respectively

25 to be Section 8–1902 through 8–1910, respectively

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 2 Article – Natural Resources
 3 Section 3–302(a)
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
 5 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 7 Article – Natural Resources
 8 Section 3–302(c)(1)(v)
 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
 10 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

11 BY adding to
 12 Article – Natural Resources
 13 Section 3–302(f); 8–1901 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 19.
 14 Chesapeake Bay Trust and Related Units” and the new part “Part I.
 15 General Provisions”; and 8–1913 through 8–1931 to be under the new
 16 part “Part II. Chesapeake Conservation Corps”
 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
 18 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 20 Article – Natural Resources
 21 Section 8–1905
 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
 23 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)
 24 (As enacted by Section 1 of this Act)

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 26 MARYLAND, That Section(s) 8–1901 through 8–1909, respectively, of Article –
 27 Natural Resources of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s)
 28 8–1902 through 8–1910, respectively.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland
 30 read as follows:

31 **Article – Natural Resources**

32 3–302.

33 (a) (1) There is an Environmental Trust Fund.

34 (2) For the purpose of this subtitle, there is established as an added
 35 cost of electricity distributed to retail electric customers within the State, an
 36 environmental surcharge per kilowatt hour of electric energy distributed in the State
 37 to be paid by any electric company as defined in § 1–101 of the Public Utility
 38 Companies Article. The Public Service Commission shall impose the surcharge per

1 kilowatt hour of electric energy distributed to retail electric customers within the
 2 State and shall authorize the electric companies to add the full amount of the
 3 surcharge to retail electric customers' bills. To the extent that the surcharge is not
 4 collected from retail electric customers, the surcharge shall be deemed a cost of
 5 distribution and shall be allowed and computed as such, together with other allowable
 6 expenses, for rate-making purposes. Revenues from the surcharge shall be collected
 7 by the Comptroller and placed in the Fund.

8 (c) (1) (v) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
 9 moneys in the Fund shall be used to:

10 1. [carry] CARRY out the provisions of this subtitle as
 11 provided for in the budget; AND

12 2. PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE CHESAPEAKE
 13 CONSERVATION CORPS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS
 14 SECTION AND TITLE 8, SUBTITLE 19, PART II OF THIS ARTICLE.

15 (F) (1) IN FISCAL YEARS 2011 THROUGH 2015, THE CHESAPEAKE
 16 CONSERVATION CORPS ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-1913 OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL
 17 RECEIVE \$1,000,000 EACH FISCAL YEAR FROM THE FUND.

18 (2) THE CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS SHALL USE THE
 19 APPROPRIATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO CARRY OUT
 20 TITLE 8, SUBTITLE 19, PART II OF THIS ARTICLE.

21 Subtitle 19. Chesapeake Bay Trust AND RELATED UNITS.

22 PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

23 8-1901.

24 (A) IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
 25 INDICATED.

26 (B) "BOARD" MEANS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHESAPEAKE
 27 BAY TRUST.

28 (C) "TRUST" MEANS THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST.

29 8-1905.

30 (a) The Board [of Trustees] shall elect [1] ONE of their members to serve as
 31 [chairman] CHAIR.

1 (b) The Board shall meet at places and dates to be determined by the Board,
2 but not less than 2 times a year.

3 (c) Seven trustees shall constitute a quorum, but action may not be taken by
4 [less than] a vote of [7] **LESS THAN SEVEN** members.

5 (d) A trustee:

6 (1) May not receive compensation **AS A TRUSTEE**; but

7 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
8 State Travel Regulations as provided in the State budget.

9 (e) The State agencies represented on the Trust shall provide staff, supplies,
10 and office space, and shall be reimbursed for these expenses from moneys of the Trust.

11 **8-1911. RESERVED.**

12 **8-1912. RESERVED.**

13 **PART II. CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS.**

14 **8-1913.**

15 (A) **IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
16 **INDICATED.**

17 (B) **“BOARD” MEANS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPS.**

18 (C) **“CORPS” MEANS THE CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS**
19 **ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-1914 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

20 (D) **“EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR” MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF**
21 **THE CORPS.**

22 **8-1914.**

23 (A) **THERE IS A CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS.**

24 (B) (1) **THE CORPS IS A BODY POLITIC AND CORPORATE AND IS AN**
25 **INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE STATE.**

26 (2) **THE CORPS IS AN INDEPENDENT UNIT THAT IS NOT UNDER**
27 **THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST.**

1 **(C) THE EXERCISE BY THE CORPS OF THE POWERS CONFERRED BY THIS**
2 **PART IS THE PERFORMANCE OF AN ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTION.**

3 **(D) THE PURPOSES OF THE CORPS ARE TO:**

4 **(1) PROMOTE, PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND SUSTAIN THE**
5 **ENVIRONMENT;**

6 **(2) PROVIDE YOUNG ADULTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME**
7 **BETTER CITIZENS, STUDENTS, AND WORKERS THROUGH MEANINGFUL SERVICE**
8 **TO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THE STATE;**

9 **(3) MOBILIZE, EDUCATE, AND TRAIN YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS**
10 **TO WORK WITH COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS TO PROMOTE ENERGY**
11 **CONSERVATION AND MITIGATE AND PREVENT THREATS TO THE ENVIRONMENT;**

12 **(4) PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS,**
13 **ESPECIALLY DISADVANTAGED YOUTH, TO BE TRAINED FOR CAREERS THAT WILL**
14 **BE PART OF THE EMERGING FIELD OF “GREEN COLLAR” JOBS;**

15 **(5) EDUCATE AND TRAIN COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS FOR**
16 **THE LONG-TERM ACTION NEEDED TO CONTINUE TO PROMOTE, PRESERVE,**
17 **PROTECT, AND SUSTAIN THE ENVIRONMENT AFTER A CORPS PROJECT HAS**
18 **BEEN COMPLETED;**

19 **(6) ACT AS A COORDINATOR AND FACILITATOR OF EFFORTS TO**
20 **FOSTER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN DEVELOPING “GREEN COLLAR”**
21 **JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND IN ENHANCING AND EXPANDING THE WORKFORCE**
22 **AVAILABLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLEAN ENERGY**
23 **INDUSTRIES; AND**

24 **(7) CHANNEL AVAILABLE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RESOURCES TO**
25 **THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, AND PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT**
26 **OF THE STATE.**

27 **8-1915.**

28 **(A) A BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MANAGE THE CORPS AND**
29 **EXERCISE ITS CORPORATE POWERS.**

30 **(B) (1) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 11 MEMBERS:**

31 **(i) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND,**
32 **APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;**

1 **(II) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,**
2 **APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

3 **(III) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE**
4 **UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE**
5 **SENATE, TO SERVE AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THE BOARD, THE CHANCELLOR,**
6 **AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS; AND**

7 **(IV) SIX MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH**
8 **THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE**
9 **INDIVIDUAL FROM THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT SECTOR WITH A BACKGROUND IN**
10 **EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICE.**

11 **(2) IF A REGULATED LOBBYIST IS APPOINTED TO SERVE AS A**
12 **MEMBER OF THE BOARD, THE LOBBYIST IS NOT SUBJECT TO:**

13 **(I) § 15-504(D) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; OR**

14 **(II) § 15-703(F)(3) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE**
15 **AS A RESULT OF THAT SERVICE.**

16 **(C) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL RESIDE IN THE STATE.**

17 **(D) IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD, THE GOVERNOR SHALL**
18 **CONSIDER:**

19 **(1) DIVERSITY; AND**

20 **(2) ALL GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS OF THE STATE.**

21 **(E) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:**

22 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
23 **BOARD; BUT**

24 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
25 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE**
26 **BUDGET.**

27 **(F) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

28 **(2) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED**
29 **BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS ON JULY 1, 2010.**

1 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE**
2 **UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

3 **(4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN**
4 **SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS**
5 **APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

6 **(G) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY MAY REMOVE A MEMBER FOR**
7 **INCOMPETENCE, MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE**
8 **POSITION.**

9 **(H) (1) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF**
10 **ITS MEETINGS.**

11 **(2) THE BOARD MAY ACT WITH AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF SIX**
12 **MEMBERS.**

13 **8-1916.**

14 **FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR, A**
15 **VICE CHAIR, AND A TREASURER.**

16 **8-1917.**

17 **(A) (1) THE BOARD SHALL EMPLOY AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

18 **(2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF**
19 **THE BOARD.**

20 **(3) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE SALARY OF THE**
21 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

22 **(4) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH**
23 **AND POSSESS QUALIFICATIONS RELEVANT TO THE ACTIVITIES AND PURPOSES**
24 **OF THE CORPS.**

25 **(B) (1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE**
26 **OFFICER OF THE CORPS.**

27 **(2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL MANAGE THE**
28 **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS AND TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPS IN**
29 **ACCORDANCE WITH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT THE BOARD**
30 **ESTABLISHES.**

1 **(C) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S**
2 **DESIGNEE, SHALL:**

3 **(1) ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD;**

4 **(2) ACT AS SECRETARY TO THE BOARD;**

5 **(3) KEEP MINUTES OF ALL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD;**

6 **(4) APPROVE ALL SALARIES, PER DIEM PAYMENTS, AND**
7 **ALLOWABLE EXPENSES OF THE CORPS, ITS EMPLOYEES, AND ITS CONSULTANTS;**

8 **(5) APPROVE ANY EXPENSES INCIDENTAL TO THE OPERATION OF**
9 **THE CORPS; AND**

10 **(6) PERFORM ANY OTHER DUTIES THAT THE BOARD DIRECTS IN**
11 **CARRYING OUT THIS PART.**

12 **(D) IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSES OF THE CORPS, THE**
13 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AND ACCEPT**
14 **GRANTS OR DONATIONS FROM GOVERNMENTAL OR PRIVATE SOURCES.**

15 **8-1918.**

16 **(A) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS THE LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE CORPS.**

17 **(B) WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE CORPS**
18 **MAY RETAIN OUTSIDE COUNSEL.**

19 **8-1919.**

20 **THE CORPS MAY RETAIN ANY NECESSARY ACCOUNTANTS, ENGINEERS,**
21 **FINANCIAL ADVISORS, TECHNICAL ADVISORS, OR OTHER CONSULTANTS.**

22 **8-1920.**

23 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (B), (C), AND (E) OF THIS**
24 **SECTION, THE CORPS IS EXEMPT FROM:**

25 **(1) TITLE 10 AND DIVISION II OF THE STATE FINANCE AND**
26 **PROCUREMENT ARTICLE; AND**

1 (2) §§ 10-505 AND 10-507 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
2 ARTICLE.

3 (B) THE CORPS IS SUBJECT TO THE PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT.

4 (C) SUBJECT TO § 8-1915(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD AND
5 THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CORPS ARE SUBJECT TO THE PUBLIC
6 ETHICS LAW.

7 (D) THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CORPS ARE NOT SUBJECT
8 TO THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION I OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS
9 ARTICLE THAT GOVERN THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

10 (E) THE CORPS, ITS BOARD, AND ITS EMPLOYEES ARE SUBJECT TO
11 TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 4 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.
12 8-1921.

13 THE CORPS MAY:

14 (1) ADOPT BYLAWS FOR THE CONDUCT OF ITS BUSINESS;

15 (2) ADOPT A SEAL;

16 (3) MAINTAIN OFFICES AT A PLACE THE CORPS DESIGNATES IN
17 THE STATE;

18 (4) ACCEPT LOANS, GRANTS, OR ASSISTANCE OF ANY KIND FROM
19 THE FEDERAL OR STATE GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, A COLLEGE OR
20 UNIVERSITY, OR A PRIVATE SOURCE;

21 (5) ENTER INTO CONTRACTS AND OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENTS;

22 (6) SUE OR BE SUED;

23 (7) ACQUIRE, PURCHASE, HOLD, LEASE AS LESSEE, AND USE:

24 (I) A FRANCHISE, PATENT, OR LICENSE;

25 (II) ANY REAL, PERSONAL, MIXED, TANGIBLE, OR
26 INTANGIBLE PROPERTY; OR

27 (III) AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY LISTED IN THIS ITEM;

1 **(8) SELL, LEASE AS LESSOR, TRANSFER, LICENSE, ASSIGN, OR**
2 **DISPOSE OF PROPERTY OR A PROPERTY INTEREST THAT THE CORPS ACQUIRES;**

3 **(9) FIX AND COLLECT RATES, RENTALS, FEES, ROYALTIES, AND**
4 **CHARGES FOR SERVICES AND RESOURCES THE CORPS PROVIDES OR MAKES**
5 **AVAILABLE;**

6 **(10) CREATE, OWN, CONTROL, OR BE A MEMBER OF A**
7 **CORPORATION, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, PARTNERSHIP, OR ANOTHER**
8 **ENTITY, WHETHER OPERATED FOR PROFIT OR NOT FOR PROFIT;**

9 **(11) EXERCISE POWER USUALLY POSSESSED BY A PRIVATE**
10 **CORPORATION IN PERFORMING SIMILAR FUNCTIONS UNLESS TO DO SO WOULD**
11 **CONFLICT WITH STATE LAW; AND**

12 **(12) DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO CARRY OUT**
13 **THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS PART.**

14 **8-1922.**

15 **THE CORPS MAY:**

16 **(1) ACQUIRE, DEVELOP, IMPROVE, MANAGE, MARKET, LICENSE,**
17 **SUBLICENSE, MAINTAIN, LEASE AS LESSOR OR LESSEE, OR OPERATE A PROJECT**
18 **IN THE STATE TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSES;**

19 **(2) ACQUIRE, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM A PERSON OR**
20 **POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, BY PURCHASE, GIFT, OR DEVISE ANY PROPERTY,**
21 **RIGHTS-OF-WAY, FRANCHISES, EASEMENTS, OR OTHER INTERESTS IN LAND,**
22 **INCLUDING SUBMERGED LAND AND RIPARIAN RIGHTS:**

23 **(I) AS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO IMPROVE OR**
24 **OPERATE A PROJECT TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSES; AND**

25 **(II) ON THE TERMS AND AT THE PRICES THAT THE CORPS**
26 **CONSIDERS REASONABLE; AND**

27 **(3) ENTER INTO A PROJECT TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSES.**

28 **8-1923.**

29 **(A) THE CORPS SHALL DEVELOP A PROGRAM OF FULL- AND PART-TIME**
30 **PUBLIC SERVICE THAT INVOLVES CITIZENS OF ALL AGES THROUGHOUT THE**
31 **STATE IN CARRYING OUT THIS PART.**

1 **(B) FOR ITS STIPEND VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS, THE CORPS SHALL**
2 **RECRUIT PRINCIPALLY INDIVIDUALS WHO, AT THE TIME OF ENROLLMENT, ARE**
3 **AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE AND NOT MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF AGE.**

4 **(C) FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS, THE CORPS MAY ALSO RECRUIT**
5 **INDIVIDUALS AT LEAST 14 YEARS OF AGE AND NOT MORE THAN 21 YEARS OF**
6 **AGE AT THE TIME OF THE ENROLLMENT.**

7 **(D) IN ADDITION, THE CORPS SHALL RECRUIT SENIOR RETIRED AND**
8 **SEMIRETIRED AND OTHER QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH RELEVANT**
9 **EXPERIENCE TO PARTICIPATE IN CORPS PROJECTS AND VOLUNTEER THEIR**
10 **EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS.**

11 **(E) THE CORPS MAY NOT UNDERTAKE A PROJECT IF THE PROJECT**
12 **WOULD REPLACE REGULAR WORKERS OR DUPLICATE OR REPLACE AN EXISTING**
13 **SERVICE IN THE SAME LOCALITY.**

14 **8-1924.**

15 **(A) THE NUMBER OF STIPEND VOLUNTEERS IN THE CORPS SHALL BE**
16 **DETERMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE**
17 **COMMUNITY AND THE LIMITS OF BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 **(B) (1) A STIPEND VOLUNTEER IN THE CORPS SHALL MAKE A**
19 **COMMITMENT OF AT LEAST 6 MONTHS OF FULL-TIME SERVICE.**

20 **(2) A STIPEND VOLUNTEER:**

21 **(I) MAY NOT RECEIVE A SALARY AS A STIPEND**
22 **VOLUNTEER; BUT**

23 **(II) SHALL RECEIVE A STIPEND, AS DETERMINED BY THE**
24 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE STIPEND VOLUNTEER**
25 **AND THE LIMITS OF BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS.**

26 **(C) (1) A MEMBER OF THE CORPS MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY**
27 **PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY WHILE ENGAGED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF**
28 **DUTIES AS A STIPEND VOLUNTEER.**

29 **(2) THIS PART IS EFFECTIVE ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT IT DOES**
30 **NOT CONFLICT WITH ANY FEDERAL OR STATE LAWS OR REGULATIONS**
31 **RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

1 (D) THE CORPS SHALL WORK WITH COMMUNITY AND ADVOCACY
2 GROUPS TO FIND INDIVIDUALS WILLING TO HOST STIPEND VOLUNTEERS IN
3 THEIR HOMES.

4 (E) (1) IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF
5 MARYLAND, THE CORPS SHALL DEVELOP COURSE CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS
6 UNDER WHICH STUDENTS MAY EARN COURSE CREDITS FOR PARTICIPATION IN
7 CORPS PROGRAMS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO OR IN ADDITION TO PAYMENT OF A
8 STIPEND IN A STIPEND VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OR ANOTHER VOLUNTEER CORPS
9 PROGRAM.

10 (2) THE CORPS MAY ENTER INTO SIMILAR COURSE CREDIT
11 ARRANGEMENTS WITH ANY INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE.

12 (F) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND
13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE UNITS AND PRIVATE
14 SECTOR ENTITIES, THE CORPS SHALL DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT
15 PARTICIPATION IN PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS INTERNSHIP AND
16 EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS, IN ORDER TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO DEVELOP
17 APPROPRIATE SKILLS, INCLUDING YOUNGER STUDENTS WHO WILL BE
18 PARTICIPATING IN A STIPEND VOLUNTEER POSITION.

19 (G) THE CORPS SHALL DEVELOP INCENTIVES FOR VOLUNTEER
20 SERVICE INCLUDING STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
21 MECHANISMS.

22 8-1925.

23 (A) THE CORPS SHALL UNDERTAKE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES THAT
24 MEET AN IDENTIFIABLE PUBLIC NEED, WITH SPECIFIC EMPHASIS ON PROJECTS
25 THAT RESULT IN LONG-TERM PRESERVATION, PROTECTION, AND
26 CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, IN AREAS INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL,
27 AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND EDUCATIONAL
28 IMPROVEMENTS.

29 (B) ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:

30 (1) SPECIFIC NUTRIENT REDUCTION ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS
31 PLANTING OF BAY GRASSES AND OYSTERS AND INSTALLING NATURAL
32 SHORELINES ON PUBLIC SPACES; AND

33 (2) WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES TO IMPROVE THEIR
34 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND ACTIVITIES AND TO ENCOURAGE APPROPRIATE
35 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.

1 **(C) AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE WORKING**
2 **WITH CORPS VOLUNTEERS FROM RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE IN PARTNERSHIP**
3 **WITH THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN PROJECTS TO PREVENT OR REDUCE**
4 **NUTRIENT RUNOFF.**

5 **(D) INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:**

6 **(1) IMPROVING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF HOUSING FOR**
7 **ELDERLY AND LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS;**

8 **(2) IMPLEMENTING CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS IN COMMUNITIES**
9 **TO ENHANCE THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND DECREASE RELIANCE ON**
10 **FOSSIL FUELS, INCLUDING FREE AND LOW-COST ENERGY AUDITS; AND**

11 **(3) BUILDING OR ASSISTING IN BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE TO**
12 **PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION INCLUDING OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS,**
13 **NATURE TRAILS, AND SCHOOLYARD HABITATS.**

14 **(E) EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:**

15 **(1) DEVELOPING INTERACTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**
16 **AND ENERGY CONSERVATION EDUCATION FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY**
17 **SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THE PUBLIC;**

18 **(2) DEVELOPING CURRICULUM TARGETED AT TRAINING HIGH**
19 **SCHOOL STUDENTS AND APPRENTICES TO OBTAIN SKILLS NECESSARY TO**
20 **CREATE AND IMPLEMENT CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES**
21 **AND TO COMPETE FOR JOBS IN THE EMERGING CLEAN ENERGY SECTOR; AND**

22 **(3) ASSISTING SCHOOLS TO BECOME “GREEN SCHOOLS” AND**
23 **REDUCE ENERGY COSTS THROUGH HANDS-ON PROJECTS WITH THEIR**
24 **STUDENTS.**

25 **8-1926.**

26 **A DEBT, CLAIM, LIABILITY, OR AN OBLIGATION OF THE CORPS OR ANY**
27 **SUBSIDIARY IS NOT:**

28 **(1) A DEBT, CLAIM, LIABILITY, OR AN OBLIGATION OF THE STATE,**
29 **A UNIT OR AN INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE STATE, OR OF A STATE OFFICER OR**
30 **STATE EMPLOYEE; OR**

31 **(2) A PLEDGE OF THE CREDIT OF THE STATE.**

1 **8-1927.**

2 **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MAY:**

3 **(1) CONTRACT WITH THE CORPS;**

4 **(2) ASSIGN TO THE CORPS RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN ITS**
5 **DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES; AND**

6 **(3) ASSIGN FACULTY AND STAFF TO THE CORPS.**

7 **8-1928.**

8 **(A) IN DEVELOPING ITS PROGRAMS, THE CORPS IS ENCOURAGED TO**
9 **SEEK ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE FROM MANY RELEVANT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE**
10 **SOURCES.**

11 **(B) IN DEVELOPING CLEAN ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND**
12 **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, THE CORPS SHALL SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM AND**
13 **COOPERATE WITH THE MARYLAND CLEAN ENERGY CENTER UNDER TITLE 10,**
14 **SUBTITLE 8 OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE.**

15 **(C) IN DEVELOPING ITS VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS, THE CORPS SHALL**
16 **SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM AND COOPERATE WITH THE MARYLAND SERVICE**
17 **CORPS AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ON SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM**
18 **UNDER TITLE 9.5, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

19 **8-1929.**

20 **THE CORPS IS EXEMPT FROM STATE AND LOCAL TAXES.**

21 **8-1930.**

22 **THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE CORPS ARE SUBJECT TO AUDIT:**

23 **(1) AT ANY TIME BY THE STATE; AND**

24 **(2) EACH YEAR BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR THAT THE OFFICE**
25 **OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS APPROVES.**

26 **8-1931.**

1 **(A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE CORPS SHALL**
2 **REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE**
3 **STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

4 **(B) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE A COMPLETE OPERATING AND**
5 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT COVERING THE OPERATIONS OF THE CORPS AND A**
6 **SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPS DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL**
7 **YEAR.**

8 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

9 (a) The terms of the initial members of the Board of Directors of the
10 Chesapeake Conservation Corps established under Section 2 of this Act appointed by
11 the Governor shall expire as follows:

12 (1) two members appointed by the Governor, on June 30, 2015;

13 (2) the member appointed by the Chancellor of the University System
14 of Maryland and one member appointed by the Governor, on June 30, 2014;

15 (3) two members appointed by the Governor, on June 30, 2013; and

16 (4) one member appointed by the Governor, on June 30, 2012.

17 (b) The terms of the initial members of the Board of Directors of the
18 Chesapeake Conservation Corps appointed by the President of the Senate and the
19 Speaker of the House shall expire on June 30, 2014.

20 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 July 1, 2010.