



# Chesapeake Bay Program

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**Chesapeake Executive Council**

## **Adoption Statement on Ballast Water**

We the undersigned, adopt the recommendations of the Chesapeake Bay Commission in its report entitled, "The Introduction of Nonindigenous Species to the Chesapeake Bay Via Ballast Water." This fulfills our pledge made by the Chesapeake Executive Council in 1993 and contained in the "Chesapeake Bay Policy on the Introduction of Nonindigenous Aquatic Species" to establish a panel consisting of user groups, federal and state agencies, and other interested parties to identify options to reduce the risks associated with the discharge of ballast water into the Chesapeake Bay.

By adopting the recommendations, we support the reauthorization of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990, the implementation of a national program of voluntary ballast water management guidelines and reporting procedures, collaborative ballast water management protocols by all nations, development of vessel designs to facilitate ballast water exchange, the demonstration of ballast water management technologies and practices, and multi-lingual education campaigns for crews of ships.

In 1995, the General Assemblies of Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania adopted resolutions urging the U.S. Congress and the federal government to take national action to help prevent the introduction of nonindigenous species to the Chesapeake Bay and all other at-risk coastal regions via ballast water. We join them in this action and furthermore will conduct an annual review to ensure that progress is being made to minimize the risk of ballast-mediated exotic species introduction.

Date: November 30, 1995

Signers:

For the Commonwealth of Virginia--*George F. Allen, Governor*

For the State of Maryland--*Parris N. Glendening, Governor*

For the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania--*Thomas J. Ridge, Governor*

For the District of Columbia--*Marion Barry, Mayor*

For the United States of America--*Carol M. Browner, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

For the Chesapeake Bay Commission--*Michael H. Weir, Chairman*

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