

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

No. 1

(Senate Joint Resolution 9)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Permits for Activities in Navigable Waters
or Ocean Waters

FOR the purpose of requesting the Congress of the United States to amend PL 92-500, Section 404, to recognize the State's rights and duties to manage its water and related land resource management activities without encumbrance by duplicative permit procedures at the Federal level.

WHEREAS, The goal of the State of Maryland is to provide full and adequate protection of its natural resources to obtain the greatest benefits for the State and its citizens through procedures which require individual permit decisions on a responsible basis within a reasonable time and has further provided for clearly defined administrative and judicial appeal procedures available to the public should an individual question the decision of the State on a particular application; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Legislature has authorized annual appropriations in excess of 40 million dollars to maintain coordinated interdisciplinary resource management Administrations within the Department of Natural Resources to assure comprehensive water and wetlands resource management decisions by persons with expertise in marsh ecology, water quality, and land and water uses; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has vested its responsibility in the Department of Natural Resources to fulfill the intent of the several legislative acts passed by the Maryland General Assembly to exercise sound water resources planning, development, and conservation, as required to maintain and improve the quality of the waters of the State; and

WHEREAS, Under policy guidelines set forth in these several acts, the State's Department of Natural Resources has developed a permit procedure which mandates consideration of the varied ecological factors associated with individual project proposals; and

WHEREAS, A duplicative permit requirement has been established at the Federal level as a result of Federal