

ACEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-282

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JUNE 9, 2020

To recognize the week of June 6-14, 2020, as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed spanning 6 states and the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay watershed, covering 64,000 square miles, is an extraordinary and vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most productive farm and forest lands;

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries, including the Potomac, Susquehanna, Rappahannock, York, and James Rivers, and stretches 200 miles from Havre de Grace, Maryland, to Norfolk, Virginia;

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay watershed is home to more than 18 million people, many of whom rely upon the watershed's natural resources for their livelihood and recreational activities;

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is an important source of food for the District of Columbia and the east coast of the United States, producing more than 500 million pounds of seafood harvest each year and home to more than 83,000 farms;

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay's tributaries are an important source of drinking water, which is essential for public health and economic growth and a vital resource for future generations;

WHEREAS, the rich history, pivotal economic importance, and astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to amaze residents and visitors alike; and

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WHEREAS, the District of Columbia is in the Potomac Watershed, which is important to the character and quality of life of the community and ultimately the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week Recognition Resolution of 2020.”

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes June 6-14, 2020, as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week to increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in our community.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.