

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER

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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE PETER ZUG

RE: Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education

DATE: June 7, 2004

I am writing to ask you to join me in sponsoring legislation that will provide for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Program.

The Commonwealth as a signatory of the Chesapeake Bay Compact and the more recently Chesapeake 2000 has agreed to provide watershed education and outreach programs to our residents so that they may learn about protecting the Chesapeake's ecosystem and other important waterways.

The intent of the legislation is to provide schools in the Commonwealth with the resources to develop watershed education curricula and provide students with opportunities to directly participate in meaningful bay and stream outdoor experiences. Schools will be eligible for grants not to exceed \$5,000 and the Department of Education will administer the program.

To join me in sponsoring this legislation, please contact Lori Losch in my office at (717) 787-2686. Enclosed, please find a copy of the draft legislation for your review.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Have a good day!



PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

Pet,
Thank you for taking
quick action on my bill.

I truly appreciate your
assistance in this matter.

Pet

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

Senator White,

I thank you for your
prompt action on HB 2775.
I truly appreciate your support
on this important education matter.

Pete

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER

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CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

November 22, 2004

The Honorable Francis V. Barnes, Ph. D.
Department of Education
333 Market Street, Harristown 2
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126-0333

Dear Secretary Barnes:

Early Sunday morning the General Assembly approved legislation (HB 2775), which I sponsored that provides for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Program. I am writing to ask for your support of the inclusion of an appropriation of \$250,000 to \$500,000 for this program in the upcoming FY 2005-06 General Fund budget.

The Commonwealth as a signatory of the Chesapeake Bay Compact and the more recently Chesapeake 2002 has agreed to provide watershed education and outreach programs to our residents so that they may learn about protecting the Chesapeake's ecosystem and other important waterways. This program will help us honor the commitment we made in these agreements and our duty to protect the environment for future generations.

The enabling legislation provides for the Department of Education to allocate grants of up to \$5,000 to schools and an environmental education center to assist in developing watershed education curricula and provide students with opportunities to directly participate in meaningful bay and stream outdoor experiences. I have included a copy of HB 2775 for your review.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER
102nd Legislative District

PJZ:lbl



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November 22, 2004

Senator David Brightbill
Senate Majority Leader
350 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Senator Brightbill:

Thank you for your work in the Senate to ensure the passage of House Bill 2775, which provides for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Program.

As you may know, the Commonwealth as a signatory of the Chesapeake Bay Compact and the more recently Chesapeake 2002 has agreed to provide watershed education and outreach programs to our residents so that they may learn about protecting the Chesapeake's ecosystem and other important waterways. This program will help us honor the commitment we made in these agreements and our duty to protect the environment for future generations.

Again, thank you again for your kind assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER
102nd Legislative District

PJZ:lbl



Rep. Peter Zug
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2004

**Zug's Bill Successfully Creates
New Chesapeake Bay Education Program**

HARRISBURG Rep. Peter Zug (R-Lebanon) has successfully promoted legislation to afford future protection of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed from concept to law. Zug's House Bill 2775 was signed into law by the governor today.

Under Zug's new law, grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to Pennsylvania schools to support resources for the development of watershed education curricula. The program will offer students opportunities to participate in meaningful bay and stream outdoor experiences. Additionally, the new law provides for teacher training via related non-profit organizations and state agencies. The state Department of Education will administer the program.

"School children will be more adequately prepared for lifetimes of appreciation for our natural waterways," Zug said. "The Chesapeake Bay, and its tributaries, are precious to Pennsylvania's economy, traditions and culture. There's no overstating how a simple and cost-effective program like this will have a long-lasting effect on the care of our waterways."

Zug, one of Pennsylvania's delegate to the Chesapeake Bay Commission, said, "this program will help to teach Pennsylvania citizens that the condition of the bay is dependent upon the actions of every person who resides in the watershed. This program will make the importance and the enjoyment of the bay come alive to our school children."

In 1983, Pennsylvania along with Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entered into the first Chesapeake Bay Agreement in an effort to protect and restore the bay's ecosystem. Nine years later, Pennsylvania renewed its commitment to the Chesapeake Bay system by entering into a new agreement known as Chesapeake 2002.

The new law, now known as the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Program Act, takes effect immediately.

DEM/jah