

***1000 Friends of Maryland * Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Cleanup Coalition
Maryland League of Conservation Voters
Patuxent Riverkeeper * Sierra Club***

SUPPORT HB 1193

ENVIRONMENT – STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS
House Environmental Matters Committee – March 12, 2008

Environmental enforcement needs to be a much greater priority for the State of Maryland if we intend to make actual progress in protecting the public's health and the air, land, and waters of the state. However, environmental violations are notoriously difficult to detect and can be quite difficult to prosecute. For this reason, a standardized 3-year statute of limitations for all environmental violations will provide the enforcement agencies the time it needs to develop an appropriate enforcement case. Meanwhile, it will provide violators with one clear, consistent, and certain statute of limitations for all environmental cases rather than the patchwork of limitations now existing. The 3-year statute of limitations is fair and appropriate and consistent with the generally applicable standard statute of limitations provided for all civil actions.

We urge a favorable report on HB 1193 from the House Environmental Matters Committee.

For more information, contact:

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