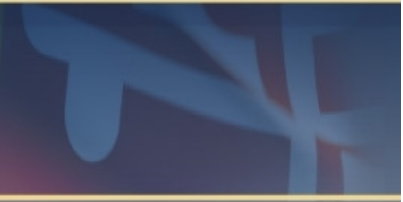




CONGRESSMAN  
**JOHN SARBANES**  
REPRESENTING MARYLAND'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



## Sarbanes Protecting & Preserving the Chesapeake Bay

The Chesapeake Bay is our Nation's largest estuary and, in many ways, the soul of Maryland. It is a national treasure but, unfortunately, the Bay's health has been significantly damaged by multiple factors from nutrient runoff to sea level rise as a result of climate change. As a Champion of the Chesapeake Bay, Congressman Sarbanes is committed to reversing these trends and is fighting to help restore the Bay:

**As a leader on the Congressional Chesapeake Bay Task Force, Congressman Sarbanes is raising awareness among his colleagues in the Congress about the perils facing the Bay.** With a particular focus on improving the health of Bay tributaries, he has helped inform Members who represent parts of the Bay watershed about pollution originating from streams or rivers in their districts that flow into the Bay.

Congressman Sarbanes has introduced several bills related to Bay restoration:

### **The Chesapeake Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act (H.R. 1649)**

- Permanently authorizes the National Park Service's Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (CBGN), which provides meaningful experiences at natural, cultural, historic and recreational sites on the Bay as well as encourages individual citizens to commit their own time and energy to the cleanup of the Bay.

### **The Chesapeake Bay Science, Education and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2011 (H.R. 1650)**

- Reauthorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office which provides much of the scientific expertise that supports efforts to restore the Bay.
- Authorizes NOAA's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training (BWET) program which provides environmental education grants in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Authorizes the Chesapeake Bay Interpretative Buoy System (CBIBS) which provides vital scientific and historical information to boaters, scientists and teachers about conditions in the Chesapeake Bay. Please visit [www.buoybay.org](http://www.buoybay.org) for more details.

### **The Save the Chesapeake Bay Homeowner Act of 2011 (H.R. 1651)**

- Creates a "Save the Chesapeake Bay Home" designation program that identifies various steps homeowners could voluntarily take around their property to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff and improve water quality in local streams and rivers that feed into the Bay.
- The bill further directs the EPA to give credit to states and local jurisdictions for nutrient and sediment level reduction based upon the number of homeowners that achieve the "Save the Chesapeake Bay Home" designation.

### **Reauthorization of the Army Corps of Engineers' Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection program (H.R. 1652)**

- Provides additional funding and encourages the Army Corps of Engineers to take on more projects such as storm water management and habitat restoration throughout the Bay watershed. Creates a small grants program for local jurisdictions and non-profits to partner with the Corps on these projects.

### **The No Child Left Inside Act (H.R. 2547)**

- Developing the next generation of environmental stewards by creating new federal grant opportunities for environmental education curriculum development and teacher training. States that participate in the grant program would develop a K-12 plan to ensure high school graduates are environmentally literate.

Congressman Sarbanes is fighting to provide adequate federal resources and enact a regulatory framework that will help improve the health of the Bay. There are 17 million people who live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. If each individual within the watershed were to contribute to clean-up efforts, even in small ways, the aggregate would yield significant results in moving Bay restoration forward. You don't have to live on the Bay to help because every corner of Maryland is part of the Bay watershed. You can make a difference in your own backyard and by taking care of the rivers, streams or creeks that run through your community. For more information, go to <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/helpthebay.aspx>.

Annapolis Office  
Arundel Center  
44 Calvert Street, Suite 349  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Phone: (410) 295-1679  
Fax: (410) 295-1682

Towson Office  
600 Baltimore Avenue  
Suite 303  
Towson, MD 21204  
Phone: (410) 832-8890  
Fax: (410) 832-8898

Washington Office  
2444 Rayburn  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-4016  
Fax: (202) 225-9219

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