

APPENDIX A

**EXECUTIVE
ORDER**

01.01.2001.01

APPENDIX A: EXECUTIVE ORDER

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Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities

WHEREAS, Environmental justice is based on the principle that regardless of race, national origin, age or income, no segment of our population should bear disproportionately high and adverse effects of environmental pollution;

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland supports and is committed to the principle of environmental justice and equal protection of all citizens of the State in a manner that fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;

WHEREAS, Major statewide revitalization initiatives for reducing sprawl, encouraging redevelopment, and enhancing community life address environmental conditions of our communities and provide new economic opportunities in these communities, while preserving more pristine areas from sprawl and additional pollution;

WHEREAS, This Administration firmly believes that economic development and environmental protection are interdependent, and equal treatment and opportunities must be afforded to all citizens of the State by involving affected communities;

WHEREAS, Chapter 741 of the Acts of 1997 established the Maryland Advisory Council on Environmental Justice, which made recommendations for assessing and implementing environmental protection to communities in a fair and equitable manner throughout the State;

WHEREAS, Chapter 585 of the Acts of 2000 established the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council, to recommend, in part, solutions to environmental justice issues affecting the health of children;

WHEREAS, Certain communities in the State may suffer disproportionately from environmental hazards related to programs and policies designed to encourage industrial, municipal or commercial revitalization;

WHEREAS, Fair treatment suggests that no community should disproportionately suffer the negative environmental impacts resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of State, local and municipal programs and policies;

WHEREAS, Environmental justice considerations should be integrated into the State's revitalization initiatives for reducing sprawl, encouraging redevelopment and enhancing community life; and

WHEREAS, Environmental justice need not hinder economic development, and economic development and environmental equity in the State can and should be effectively balanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PARRIS N. GLENDENING, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE

CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. Established. There is a Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities.

B. Membership.

- (1) The Commission shall be comprised of the following members:
 - (a) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (b) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (c) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (d) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - (e) One member of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and
 - (f) Up to ten members appointed by the Governor to represent affected communities concerned with environmental justice, business and environmental organizations, health experts, local government and the general public with relevant interest or expertise.
- (2) Members appointed by the Governor shall serve 3-year terms, and may be reappointed subject to the Governor's decision to extend the operation of the Commission for a new 3-year term.
- (3) The Governor shall designate a Chair from among the members.
- (4) The Commission may establish working committees on specific environmental justice issues, and invite individuals to participate from both the public and private sector, including experts from research institutions, and other State and Federal agencies with relevant jurisdiction.

C. Duties. The Commission shall perform the following duties:

- (1) Advise State agencies on environmental justice and related community issues;
- (2) Review and analyze the impact of, including determining whether a causal relationship exists between, current State policy, laws and regulations on the issue of environmental justice and sustainable communities;
- (3) Assess the adequacy of State and local government laws and regulations to address the issue of environmental justice and sustainable communities;
- (4) Coordinate with the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council on recommendations related to environmental justice and sustainable communities;
- (5) Develop criteria to assess whether communities of the State may be experiencing environmental justice issues; and

(6) Recommend options to the Governor for addressing issues, concerns or problems surfacing through the review process, prioritizing areas of the State which are targets for immediate attention.

D. Staffing. The Department of the Environment shall provide primary staff support to the Commission. The Department shall seek additional staff support as appropriate from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and other State agencies and institutions which have a role or expertise in environmental justice issues.

E. Procedures.

(1) The Commission shall meet at the times and places to be determined by the Chair.

(2) A majority of members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business before the Commission.

(3) Members of the Commission may not receive any compensation for services, but may receive reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.

F. Reports. The Commission shall report annually to the Governor through December 31, 2003, at which time the provisions of this Executive Order concerning the Commission may be extended for an additional 3 years.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland in the City of Annapolis, this 9th Day of March, 2001.

Parris N.
Governor

Glendening

ATTEST:

John T.
Secretary of State

Willis