

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4290**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
LAND CONSERVATION ACT**

WHEREAS, the *Capper-Cramton Act of 1930* provided for the "acquisition of lands in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Virginia requisite to the comprehensive park, parkway, and playground system of the National Capital"; and

WHEREAS, much of the existing permanently preserved parkland and open space in the National Capital Region was established through the partnership of federal, state, and local governments utilizing *Capper-Cramton Act* funding; and

WHEREAS, "National Capital Region Land Conservation Act" (H.R. 2986 and S. 1525) was introduced by Virginia Congressman James P. Moran, Jr., and Maryland Senator Benjamin L. Cardin, in June, 2009, to amend the *Capper-Cramton Act*, authorizing up to \$50 million annually for five years to establish a matching-grant program to preserve land resources including parks and open space in the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is designed to help the region preserve a variety of desirable land uses, such as open space, forested and agricultural land, and to thereby protect water quality, air quality, recreational uses and other amenities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would provide major assistance for achieving COG's Greater Washington 2050 *Region Forward* target to " identify, conserve and enhance a network of protected open spaces, parks and green infrastructure to provide ecological benefits, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and scenic beauty", and further supports COG's *National Capital Region Climate Change Report* tree canopy preservation goals; and

WHEREAS, COG's Metropolitan Development Policy Committee and the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee have reviewed the proposed legislation and strongly recommend that the Council endorse it.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

1. COG strongly endorses H. R. 2986/S. 1525 and urges Congress to take prompt action to pass this legislation.
2. The Chairman of the Board shall transmit a letter of support for the legislation to the respective Chairs and Ranking-Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, as well as the National Capital Region's Congressional delegation.