



CBPC Legislative Issues Tracking 2015

As of 3/19/15

MARYLAND				
Bill Number (Patron)	Bill Descriptor	Core Concepts	Bill Status	CBPC Action
SB 863 (Miller)	Stormwater: Converts mandatory fee to optional fee; authorizing the State or a unit of State government to be charged a stormwater remediation fee by a county under specified circumstances; requiring a specified county or municipality to file a specified financial assurance plan in accordance with specified requirements; etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricts flexibility of already existing fee programs. • Could pose cost burden to local governments, given non-profit fee cap and exemptions. • Financial assurance plan is already in MS4 permits and alternative compliance plan is already in existing HB 987 (2012). 	Senate Hearing on Tuesday 3/10. MACO testified in favor w/ Amendments; CBC opposed. Senate vote pending.	Letter drafted, commenting on provisions, but Monday 3/23 is crossover.
SB 36, SB 42, SB 588	Stormwater Remediation Fee Repeal or Reform (HB 987 of 2012)	Shouldn't limit local government's ability to pay for it's stormwater management to meet local water quality or Bay obligations.	EHE voted 14-7 to defeat these Bills.	None needed.
HB 481, HB 874	Stormwater: Bill to repeal the so-called "rain tax"		House Hearing (Environment and Transportation Committee) voted against on 3/9.	None needed.
SB 28 (B. Simonaire)	Funding: Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Prohibit Transfers from the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund to General Fund	Puts a "lock box" around the Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund, so that General Assembly can't raid these funds.	Passed the Senate. HB 302 hearing was 3/14. Would have to pass by 3/5 majority in both chambers and go to voters Nov. 2016.	Monitor.

VIRGINIA				
Bill Number (Patron)	Bill Descriptor	Concerns / COG Position	Bill Status	CBPC Action
HB 1293 (Morris)	Stormwater: Exemption from stormwater fees for certain churches, religious associations, or denominations.	Advise against exemption - given the potential loss of federal revenue and resulting shift in those local program costs to be absorbed by other ratepayers/businesses.	Tabled by subcommittee.	No action needed , since Bills 1293 and 1294 are no longer active.
HB 1294 (Morris)	Stormwater: Exempts churches, religious associations or denominations from all state and local taxes, fees, and other charges.	Same as above, but suggests even broader exemptions. Advise against exemption (for same reason).	Tabled by subcommittee.	
National				
Issue Descriptor: Funding		COG Position	Issue Status	CBPC Action
WIFIA		a) repeal the prohibition of tax-exempt bonds for WIFIA project matching funds b) Seek \$20 M additional funding for WIFIA <i>Supported by COG Board's 2015 Legislative Policy.</i>	WEF/AWWA /NACWA have position papers asking for repeal of tax-exempt bond prohibition, and additional funds for WIFIA loans.	Future letter in support of WEF/AWWA bond repeal.
Tax-exempt municipal bonds		Protect the current federal tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. <i>Supported by COG Board's 2015 Legislative Policy.</i>	AWWA/WEF/ NACWA have position papers	Future letter of support.
Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) & Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)		Maintain prior year SRF funding levels, at a minimum. <i>Supported by COG Board's 2015 Legislative Policy.</i>	AWWA/WEF/ NACWA have position papers	Future letter of support.