

Resolution No. 6

Date: February 6, 2007

City: Orlando, Florida

NAHB Resolution

Title: Nutrient Reductions to Improve Water Quality
Original Sponsor: Home Builders Association of Virginia

WHEREAS, nutrient enrichment is one of the leading causes of poor water quality;

WHEREAS, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the District of Columbia are under court order to reduce their pollution levels to enable the waters of the Chesapeake Bay to be removed from the impaired category by 2010;

WHEREAS, 40 percent of the nutrient input into the Chesapeake Bay comes from farmland;

WHEREAS, to reach this goal, the affected states and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency have agreed to reduce annual loads of nitrogen pollution to the Chesapeake Bay by 110 million pounds by 2010 from a 2000 baseline;

WHEREAS, there has been significant progress in obtaining public funding to upgrade sewage treatment plants, which will achieve approximately 20 percent of the goal;

WHEREAS, the most cost-effective way to reach this goal is for farmers to implement Best Management Practices;

WHEREAS, absent significant improvements on the agricultural front the home building community may face increased controls on storm water runoff;

WHEREAS, absent significant reductions in nitrogen pollution there may be limits imposed on increased discharges from sewage treatment plants;

WHEREAS, the Home Builders Association of Virginia and the National Association of Home Builders support the use of Best Management Practices to comprehensively address all sources of water pollution as an alternative to mandated controls; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Farmer Assistance & Clean Tributary Act (FACT) is expected to be introduced early in the 110th Congress to provide increased funding to assist farmers in implementing Best Management Practices,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Home Builders support legislative solutions promoting increased funding and incentives for farmers and other landowners to implement Best Management Practices, including those that facilitate nutrient trading and encourage development of innovative technology, thereby reducing nutrient input into the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers as well as other nutrient impaired waters of the United States.

Board of Directors Action:
Joint Executive Board Action:
Resolutions Committee Action:
Land Development Committee Action:
Environmental Issues Committee Action:
Federal Government Affairs Committee Action:

Approved
Recommends Approval
Recommends Approval
Recommends Approval
Recommends Approval
Recommends Approval