

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2004 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-6-2004

Proposed by Council Member Peters

Introduced by Council Members Peters, Knotts, Hendershot, Shapiro, Harrington,  
Dernoga, Dean and Exum

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction January 20, 2004

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Designation of the Patuxent River as a Federal Wild and Scenic River

3 For the purpose of supporting a request by the Patuxent River Commission for federal legislation  
 4 that will enable a study to determine the qualification of the Patuxent River for designation as a  
 5 Federal Wild and Scenic River.

6 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is to protect free-  
 7 flowing rivers with “remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural  
 8 and similar values” by linking local governments, private landowners, and nonprofit  
 9 environmental organizations with state and federal agencies; and

10 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council has long recognized the Patuxent River’s  
 11 unique and valuable wildlife, archeological and historical resources; and

12 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County has preserved over 6,000 acres of these valued  
 13 resources along the Patuxent River as the Patuxent River Park; and

14 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County has included a large portion of the Patuxent River  
 15 shoreline in its Rural Legacy Area; and

16 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council continues to recognize the need to protect  
 17 the valuable resources of the Patuxent River through its planning, zoning and development  
 18 policies and its inclusion of much of the river’s watershed in the Rural Tier to protect large  
 19 amounts of land for woodland and wildlife habitat, recreation and agricultural pursuits, and  
 20 preservation of rural character; and

21 WHEREAS, programs that add to our continuing effort to protect and enhance the Patuxent

1 Rivera and its watershed are of significant benefit to the citizens of Prince George's County; and

2 WHEREAS, it is believed that the Patuxent River, possessing high levels of natural and  
3 cultural values may qualify for inclusion with the many American rivers that have qualified for  
4 designation under the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; and

5 WHEREAS, it has been determined that such designation will in no way adversely affect  
6 the Patuxent River or the rights of the citizens and residents of the County; and

7 WHEREAS, a study of the Patuxent River, that is federally funded and implemented, is  
8 required to verify the qualification of the River for designation as a Federal Wild and Scenic  
9 River; and

10 WHEREAS, the findings of the study will be presented to State and local governments  
11 within the Watershed, and to interested organizations and citizens for comments; and

12 WHEREAS, the findings of the study will provide the State, the Counties within the  
13 Patuxent Watershed, and interested organizations and individuals with information of great value  
14 for the protection and enhancement of the Patuxent River and its Watershed.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's  
16 County, Maryland, that the County Council hereby supports the request by the Patuxent River  
17 Commission for federal legislation that will enable a federally funded and implemented study of  
18 the Patuxent River and its watershed to determine the qualifications of the river for designation  
19 as a Federal Wild and Scenic River.

Adopted this 9th day of March, 2004.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Knotts  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council