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PRESS RELEASE

A Special Message from Attorney General Frosh in Recognition of Earth Day

BALTIMORE, MD (**April 21, 2017**) – In a time where vital programs and resources that protect and save some of Maryland's – and Earth's – most natural treasures are being threatened, Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today released the following video and statement in honor and in celebration of Earth Day:

"From the moment that Captain John Smith landed in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay in 1607, he mapped and captured the essence of one of the world's most picturesque natural treasures. He and his men encountered shorelines thick with vegetation – rooted flowers and plants and deep forestation- home to an abundance of animals including deer, eagles, hawks, quails, countless species of birds, wolves, minks, otters, rabbits, bears. In the waters, Smith and his men encountered an abundance of fish – as he writes, "lying so thick with their heads above water – as for want of nets, we attempted to catch them with a frying pan."

"The Chesapeake Bay is a treasure so remarkable that Captain John Smith described it as 'the most pleasant place ever known... heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation.'"

"As stewards of this land, we must continue to protect these treasures. Without important programs like the Chesapeake Bay Program, this natural treasure is at risk at being completely gone and forgotten. We've made great strides to restore the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries back to its original standing. It's a slow and steady process, but we have made progress. Maryland's history is rooted in this unique landscape and we all contribute to the health of our land, water and air. We must do all that we can protect and save our Bay, and save our Planet Earth, including keeping critical programs in place. Save Our Bay. Save Our Earth so that more generations can enjoy our natural treasures."

"Happy Earth Day."

The full video can be found <u>here</u>.