Maryland General Assembly Joint Committee on Federal Relations

2014 Interim Membership Roster

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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Joint Committee on Federal Relations

December 8, 2014

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr, Co-chairman The Honorable Michael E. Busch, Co-chairman Members of the Legislative Policy Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Joint Committee on Federal Relations respectfully submits this report on its activities during the 2014 interim. Pursuant to Title 2, Subtitle 9 of the State Government Article, the committee is responsible for monitoring the effects of federal proposals on the State, reviewing interstate compacts, and generally promoting cooperation between the State and federal governments. The committee's interim activities are summarized below.

The committee chose to not meet in Annapolis in the 2014 interim, but did review (via email communication and staff research) certain interstate compacts to which the State is a party, and organized and attended a site visit at the White House.

Interstate Compacts – During the interim, the committee reviewed the following interstate compacts:

- Chesapeake Bay Commission Agreement;
- Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin;
- Maryland-Virginia Potomac River Compact of 1958;
- Southern Interstate Energy Compact;
- Interstate Mining Compact;
- Interstate Oil and Gas Compact; and
- Susquehanna River Basin Compact.

These compacts covered environmental issues, joint efforts with neighboring states on natural resources stewardship, and natural resources extraction (mining, oil and gas). Agencies involved with the compacts recommended Maryland's continued participation in each compact.

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Washington, DC Site Visit – On October 14, 2014, the committee attended a site visit in Washington, DC that included a tour of the White House and a policy discussion with members of the President's staff. The discussion focused on policy priorities of the President that are particularly relevant to the states and state lawmakers. The topics discussed included:

- Health care and the Affordable Care Act;
- Climate change;
- Early childhood education; and
- Sexual assault on college campuses.

The committee looks forward to continuing its role as a forum for discussion of important issues in State-federal relations.

Sincerely,

Jennie M. Forehand Senate Chair

JMF/RHH/arr

cc: Mr. Karl S. Aro

Ms. Lynne B. Porter

Mr. Warren G. Deschenaux