

WHEREAS, problems concerning the public school system have required the close consideration of the people of this State during the past several years, as new and unprecedented difficulties have been encountered; and

WHEREAS, these difficulties have included a rapidly expanding school population, requiring additional teachers and new buildings, and also a series of readjustments in salary levels in order to assure teachers a decent standard of living and to meet salary competition from the Federal Government and from private industry; and

WHEREAS, to assist in meeting these pressing problems, the State has increased its expenditures for operating the public schools and also for the first time has inaugurated a policy of assisting the political sub-divisions in the construction and enlargement of school buildings; and

WHEREAS, the passage of H. B. 610 of 1951, known generally as the "Teachers' Salary Bill", its veto by the Governor, and its subsequent reconsideration by the General Assembly have raised sharp questions of public policy as to the future administration and financing of the public school system; and

WHEREAS, independently of the matters raised in H. B. 610 of 1951, other questions of equal importance are being discussed throughout the State, concerning the purposes and functions of public schools, their curriculum and physical facilities, and related matters; and

WHEREAS, there is need for a fresh study and reconsideration of the entire structure and operation of the public school system of this State, to cover all phases of the curriculum, physical plant, workings and administration of the public schools; and to determine in particular the proper division of responsibility as to the administration and financing of the public schools, between the State and the several political sub-divisions; now therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Governor of Maryland, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates be requested jointly to appoint a commission to study and re-evaluate the public school system of this State, this commission to include in its study and re-evaluation such topics as curriculum, physical facilities, administration, salaries. THE PROPER DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY AS TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCING OF THE PUBLIC*