

WHEREAS, There have been recent suggestions by civic leaders in Baltimore County that there is need for an independent commission to study the organization, operation and workings of the present system of county government in Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS, Within the past three decades, Baltimore County has increased five fold in population and has changed completely from a rural suburban county to a highly industrial urban and metropolitan community; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Baltimore County Delegation in the General Assembly feel that the great changes in the character of the county and in the problems of its government warrant a study of the organization and operations of the County, in search for possible improvements; and

WHEREAS, It is the further sense of the County Delegation in the General Assembly that such changes should not be made arbitrarily or without complete study and investigation; and

WHEREAS, The work of this commission would not, in any way, be in conflict with that of the present Hammond Commission, it being the function of the Hammond Commission to study the efficiency and effectiveness of the present operations of the government, while the commission proposed by this Joint Resolution would confine its work to more basic considerations of structure and political organization; therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That this body recommend the creation of a special commission to study and investigate the workings and operation of the county government of Baltimore County; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this Commission be composed of a total of nine persons, three to be named by the Board of County Commissioners of Baltimore County, one of whom shall be designated as Chairman, three to be named by the State Senator and the six members of the House of Delegates from Baltimore County, and three to be named by the County Commissioners, the State Senator, and the six members of the House of Delegates, jointly, with at least three of the nine members being representatives of that political party which, at the most recent Gubernatorial election, polled the highest number of votes cast throughout the entire State; and be it further