

Senate Joint Resolution 54 of 1967 required the appointment of a Commission to review the problems arising from the harmful use of pesticides, and to suggest possible legislation in this area.

The Commission was appointed in December 1967 and has held three meetings. The Commission has requested its continuance, since it needs additional time to complete its data collection and to prepare recommendations on education, research, and regulations on the uses of pesticides in Maryland; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Governor's Commission on Pesticides is continued and is instructed to present its final report to the Legislative Council during the summer of 1968; and be it further*

*Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Chairman of the Commission, and the Chairman and Secretary of the Legislative Council.*

Approved May 7, 1968.

---

No. 49

(House Joint Resolution 65)

House Joint Resolution requesting the Governor of Maryland to appoint a commission to make a comprehensive study of the judicial doctrine of sovereign immunity and to make a report with recommendations on legislation in the nature of a State Tort Claims Act.

WHEREAS, The present judicial doctrine of sovereign immunity often operates capriciously and unjustly to preclude recovery on many meritorious claims against state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Court of Appeals has recently ruled in *Weisner v. Board of Education of Montgomery County*, 237 Md. 391, 206 A.2d 560 (1965), that the doctrine of sovereign immunity is so firmly established in the law of this State that any change must come from the legislature; and

WHEREAS, The delineation of those areas where justice dictates that state and local governments be liable in tort and be responsible for providing compensation to injured persons can best be accomplished through detailed legislation in the nature of a State Tort Claims Act; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly takes note of the fact that the California Legislature enacted in 1963 a detailed Tort Claims Act based on comprehensive study by the California Law Revision Commission; and

WHEREAS, The liability of the State and its officers in tort poses problems requiring a comprehensive study which cannot be made by