

Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, the Honorable John Hanson Briscoe, the Honorable Steny Hamilton Hoyer, the Chairman of the Joint Personnel Policy Committee, and the Honorable Henry G. Bosz.

*Not signed by the Acting Governor.

No. 66*

(Senate Joint Resolution 44)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Mental Retardation -
Highland Health Facility

FOR the purpose of requesting the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to continue to operate the Highland Health Facility; and generally relating to facilities for mentally retarded children.

WHEREAS, The mental retardation unit of the Highland Health Facility is a residential center located on the grounds of Baltimore City Hospitals at 5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland for the care, treatment, and rehabilitation of mentally retarded children; and

WHEREAS, During its operation, the facility has been praised for the high level of care which it renders, for the excellent quality of its educational, physical therapy, any related programs, and for the dedication and skill of its staff; and

WHEREAS, The mental retardation administration of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has proposed that the Highland Health Facility be closed, and that the children residing at the facility be transferred to Rosewood Center, a State residential facility located in Owings Mills, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Before coming to the Highland Health Facility, many of the children resided at Rosewood Center; and

~~WHEREAS, The parents of children who previously resided at Rosewood have complained, among other things, of the poor care rendered at Rosewood, the unsanitary conditions under which their children were forced to live, and the lack of meaningful educational, physical therapy and other programs; and~~