

No. 14

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 51)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Firehawk Program

FOR the purpose of recognizing the problem of juvenile fire-setting by certain juveniles as a serious danger and one that should be addressed in a positive manner by the State; endorsing the "firehawk program" that is in existence in the State as serving an important purpose; and requesting that a "firehawk program" or a similar type of program be adopted ~~in some fashion~~ in all political subdivisions in the State.

WHEREAS, More than half of all fire-setting in this State is committed by juveniles; and

WHEREAS, The loss of life and property damage that has occurred due to this problem will continue to occur if the situation is not effectively addressed; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's Anti-Arson Council mandated the identification and counsel of juveniles who are impelled to set fires, and the development of programs for the training of juvenile counselors; and

WHEREAS, There exists a "firehawk program" in this State which has served as a positive means of intervention into the problem of juvenile fire-setting; and

WHEREAS, The firehawk program is a voluntary program administered and operated by local firefighters; and

WHEREAS, The development and maintenance of professional counseling is a costly item; and

WHEREAS, The existing firehawk programs have been adopted in several jurisdictions and have proved to be both effective and popular means of arson deterrence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the firehawk program and similar types of programs ~~is~~ are recognized and endorsed and ~~is hereby recommended to~~ should be adopted by all State counties, cities, and political subdivisions; and be it further

~~RESOLVED, That the firehawk program as operated in the State is serving an important and worthwhile purpose and ought to be adopted in some fashion in all political subdivisions in the State, and be it further~~