

WHEREAS, The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, known as Amtrak, serves the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, Our citizens' use of Amtrak has increased continuously since 1971 until at the present time 1,184,788 persons in 1984 used Amtrak to arrive in and depart from points in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak directly employs 2,540 citizens of this State with annualized earnings of \$55.9 million and indirectly supports the employment of thousands of other citizens of this State through the purchase of supplies and equipment from their employers; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak has expended over \$11.3 million for passenger facilities, goods, and services; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak has continually improved the quality of service, the corporation's financial position, and the number of passengers carried to the point where Amtrak transported 22 million people in 1984 and expects to increase that amount by 2% to 3% in 1985; and

WHEREAS, The Budget presented to the Congress of the United States by President Reagan would, if enacted, deprive Amtrak of the federal funding required for its continued existence; and

WHEREAS, The effective elimination of Amtrak would result in serious adverse economic consequences to this State and its citizens in terms of loss of investment, loss of income to equipment and supplies contractors with Amtrak, loss of rail passenger service, loss of jobs, and a concomitant strain on the Railroad Retirement System by the loss of many contributors to that system; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Amtrak must be continued in operation to serve this State as Amtrak has served in the past; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Congress of the United States should provide sufficient funding through appropriation of those amounts of money necessary to keep Amtrak in fiscal year 1986 in at least as sound a position operationally and financially as Amtrak has been in fiscal year 1985; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. and Paul S. Sarbanes, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Royden P. Dyson, Helen Delich Bentley, Barbara A. Mikulski, Marjorie S. Holt, Steny H. Hoyer, Beverly B. Byron, Parren J. Mitchell, and Michael D. Barnes, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; the Honorable Harry Hughes, Governor of Maryland; and the Honorable Elizabeth H. Dole, Secretary of