

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

RESOLVED, That the Task Force on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits report to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee of the General Assembly on or before November 1, 1987; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor of Maryland, the State House, Annapolis, Maryland 21404.

Signed May 14, 1987.

-----  
No. 13

(House Joint Resolution No. 42)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Chesapeake Bay - EMPRESS II Project

FOR the purpose of requesting the U. S. Department of the Navy to end the testing of the EMPRESS II project because of the projected disruption to commercial shipping in the Chesapeake Bay.

WHEREAS, Commercial shipping disruptions caused by the U. S. Navy's planned high-voltage electromagnetic pulse generator on the Chesapeake Bay could cost Maryland millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, Commercial ship pilots have told the State that they will not sail past the antennae that will discharge 7 million volt "pulses" because its power will damage electronic equipment on the ships; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Navy will discharge the "pulses" under the Electro Magnetic Pulse Radiation Environmental Simulator for Ships (EMPRESS II) from a barge near Bloodsworth Island and Cambridge, Md. to simulate the effects of a nuclear blast on Navy communications; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Navy's study of EMPRESS II showed no effect on people, birds, or marine life that live in the Chesapeake Bay, but the study also conceded that EMPRESS II, when in operation and under certain conditions, could cause shocks to people sailing within a 2-mile exclusion zone that the Navy plans to set up around the antennae; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the U. S. Navy is requested to end all further consideration of using the planned high-voltage electromagnetic pulse generator under the