

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

No. 1

(House Joint Resolution No. 46)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Nursing Home Reimbursements

FOR the purpose of granting approval by the General Assembly of increased per-patient reimbursement to nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for certain nursing home care under Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly provided in the Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 1976, Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975, that medical assistance reimbursements to nursing homes could not exceed \$23.90 per day per patient for nursing home care, provided those homes qualified as skilled nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is now desirous of including over-the-counter drugs as a covered service for patients in skilled nursing homes and intermediate care facilities which will increase the cost of providing care to medical assistance patients in the nursing homes and intermediate care facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene wishes to reimburse adequately skilled nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for providing this additional care to the medical assistance patients in the nursing homes and intermediate care facilities; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975 prohibits the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene from reimbursing these facilities by more than \$23.90 per day unless there is prior approval granted by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, This approval to increase the ceiling for nursing home reimbursements will not alter the total appropriations for medical assistance provider reimbursements contained in Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly hereby grants its approval to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that in expending funds under 32.01.05.03, medical assistance provider reimbursements, of Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975, payments are authorized not to exceed \$24.30 per day per patient, for nursing home care provided those homes qualify as skilled nursing homes; and provided that the