

in consultation with one another and with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to determine the feasibility of establishing a consortium in the field of autism for the purpose of:

- (1) collecting and analyzing information on the number, incidence, correlates, and causes of autism and related developmental disabilities; and
- (2) performing basic and clinical research into autism, including investigations into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control, and treatment of autism; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, if it is determined by these entities that a consortium in one or both of the research areas discussed is feasible and desirable, that the General Assembly and the Office of the Governor will provide support as appropriate and necessary to facilitate the designation of the consortium as a Center for Excellence in Autism, as that term is defined by the National Institutes of Health; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Signed May 18, 2001.

Joint Resolution No. 14

(House Joint Resolution No. 23)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Task Force to Study Establishing a Matthew Henson Memorial

FOR the purpose of extending the time for the Task Force to Study Establishing a Matthew Henson Memorial to complete its study; providing for the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Establishing a Matthew Henson Memorial.

WHEREAS, Matthew Henson, an African American, was born in Charles County on August 8, 1866; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 12, Matthew Henson joined an expedition to China as a cabin boy under the tutelage of Captain Childs, who taught him mathematics and navigation, particularly how to read maps; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Henson and Lt. Robert E. Peary traveled seven times to the Arctic on dangerous and difficult expeditions, and as a result Mr. Matthew Henson became an interpreter of the Inuit language and an expert on arctic survival, including dogsled driving and hunting; and