No. 11

(Senate Joint Resolution 13)

Senate Joint Resolution establishing a Special Legislative Commission to study and implement the Interim Report of the Commission on State and County Finance.

The General Assembly of Maryland is directing the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates to appoint a Special Legislative Commission to review and implement the Interim Report of the Commission on State and County Finance.

This Interim Report proposes a series of major recommendations as a preliminary plan or blueprint of an overall revision of Maryland's financial structure. The Interim Report has been presented to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the people of the State for review, acceptance, or modification.

The proposals in this report are sweeping ones, which may have been anticipated in the resolution which led to the creation of the Commission, when it suggested a "possible revision of the entire tax structure of the State." The Commission on State and County Finance is not proposing that legislation implementing its recommendations be enacted at the 1965 Session of the General Assembly. Instead, the Commission has suggested that a year's period be allowed for study and discussion of the program and for developing detailed plans and that a goal be set for enactment of the major legislative requirements during the 1966 Session of the General Assembly.

Long preliminary work is necessary and desirable on the Commission's recommendations before technicians and draftsmen begin work in developing the detailed changes in the laws of this State.

For this purpose, it is desirable that a Special Legislative Commission be appointed to take primary responsibility for these studies. This will give assurance that if actual legislative proposals are submitted to the General Assembly at the 1966 Session, a number of members of each house will have a close knowledge of the various recommendations and proposed laws; now therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates are directed to appoint a Special Legislative Commission to study and review the Interim Report of the Commission on State and County Finance; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the Senate appoint six members of the Senate of Maryland including the Chairman of the Committee on Finance ex officio; and that the Speaker of the House of Delegates appoint six members of the House one of whom shall be the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means ex officio; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance shall serve as Chairman of this Special Legislative Committee and the Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means shall serve as Vice Chairman of this Special Legislative Committee; and be it further