

*Resolved*, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the President of the Bowie Interfaith Recreation Council, Bowie, Maryland 20715.

Approved April 26, 1972.

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No. 6

(Senate Joint Resolution 37)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting a study of the current law enforcement situation in Harford County and the ways and means to be employed to improve it, if necessary.

WHEREAS, During the past twenty-five years, there has been a steady increase in the population of Harford County. The result of this growth is that, at the present time, the majority of the population of Harford County live outside the boundaries of any municipal corporation. According to a recent census, the population of the County is now 113,000, and it is believed that as Harford County becomes increasingly a part of the Metropolitan Baltimore suburbs, this trend in population will continue at an accelerated pace.

One of the aspects of this situation concerns law enforcement in Harford County. The question can be properly raised whether the Harford County police force organizations are properly constituted to provide for the efficient enforcement of the law in Harford County in future years. The police officials of Harford County should organize a study concerning the efficiency of the current law enforcement techniques in their county and of ways and means of improving that enforcement. The improvement and expansion of the Sheriff's office, the creation of a county-wide police force under the provisions of Section 461A of the Harford County Code of Public Local Laws, or the purchase of local police services from the Local Division Department of the Maryland State Police under the provisions of Chapter 502 of the Acts of 1968 are several possibilities.

The Comprehensive Criminal Justice Plan instituted in Maryland in 1971 has allocated up to \$15,800 in federal funds to non-urban counties for a study such as has been suggested. This money will be made available for the study of such topics as funding, organization, management control, and consolidation of existing law enforcement agencies; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Commissioners of Harford County make a formal request for planning assistance in the law enforcement field to Mr. Thomas J. Elwood, Director of the Criminal Justice Planning staff of the Regional Planning Council, 701 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, and that this request be filed on or before the mid-February, 1972, meeting of the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the County Commissioners of Harford County, Bel Air, Maryland, and to each Member of the Harford County Delegation in the House of Delegates of Maryland.

Approved April 26, 1972.