

## JOINT RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, The continued existence of accredited nonpublic special education programs in the State are increasingly threatened, and the Maryland community is in danger of being deprived of the knowledge, skills, and years of expertise involved in those programs; and

WHEREAS, Nonpublic special education programs are being displaced by the increasing development of public special education programs; and

WHEREAS, Nonpublic special education programs have been recognized by the State Department of Education as part of the continuum of special education services necessary to appropriately serve handicapped children in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to clarify the intent of the State law concerning education as to its effect on the continued existence and number of public special education facilities; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to clarify the understanding of funding, criterion of placement, and continuation of programs for nonpublic special education facilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor Legislative Policy Committee appoint a commission to study the effect of the State's education law on nonpublic, special education programs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this commission shall consist of:

The State Superintendent of Schools, or his designee;

The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or his designee;

The Secretary of Human Resources, or his designee;

Three representatives of the Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities;

One representative of the Maryland Association for Retarded Citizens;

One representative of United Cerebral Palsy of Maryland;

~~Three~~ Two representatives of local education agencies; ~~and~~

~~Three~~ Two persons who are parents of handicapped children; ~~and be it further~~