

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, The specific areas of deficiencies have been corroborated by a special biracial Enhancement Study Task Force comprised of 16 out-of-state consultants, well respected in their fields, appointed by the State Board for Higher Education to investigate the comparative status of Maryland's historically black colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, The deficiencies cited by the Task Force impact adversely upon the capabilities of black institutions to compete with other public institutions in improving the quality of programs, students, faculty and furthermore affect their ability to achieve State desegregation goals and to increase enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The needs of the State and of public higher education may require future changes in the organization and missions of the segments and institutions of public higher education, it is important at the same time to acknowledge the dedication of the General Assembly to equal educational opportunities for all citizens, including remedying serious institutional deficiencies where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, The State's funding policies should provide the margin for eliminating the deficiencies, while pursuing simultaneously, the State's expressed goals for postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Branch and the State Board for Higher Education have articulated their commitment to the enhancement of historically black institutions within the State's broader goals; and

WHEREAS, Enhancement includes both increased funding and strengthened management; and

WHEREAS, These institutions have made submissions to the Governor delineating their needs and related costs for addressing the deficiencies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That this Body recognizes historically black colleges and universities as an inseparable part of the State's diverse system of higher education, and that this Body is committed to their ~~effective~~ development and enhancement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the General Assembly support the concept of enhancement ~~funding~~ and pledge ~~effective~~ effective and appropriate means for enhancing and improving the historically black colleges and universities in the context of the State's expressed goals for postsecondary education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Harry Hughes, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable James Clark, Jr., President of the Senate of