

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference 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; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State Department of Education at 200 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595 and to the Superintendent of Schools of each county and Baltimore City.

Signed May 18, 1995.

Joint Resolution No. 10

(House Joint Resolution No. 21)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Amtrak – Support for Continued Service at Current Levels

FOR the purpose of urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to continue to provide financial support to Amtrak at the current level of funding; urging ~~an exemption for Amtrak from fuel taxes~~, flexibility for states to use federal highway transportation trust fund moneys on Amtrak projects, and the inclusion of Amtrak in any federal plan for a national transportation system.

WHEREAS, Amtrak workers and vendors pay more in taxes than the federal government provides in funding for Amtrak; and

WHEREAS, Federal funding for Amtrak has fallen in the last decade while it has risen for airports and highways; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak travel increased by 48% between 1982 and 1993, and Amtrak dramatically improved coverage of its operating costs from revenues; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak is 9 times safer than driving on a per passenger mile basis, and operates even in severe weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak provides mobility to citizens of smaller communities poorly served by air and bus services, as well as to those senior citizens, disabled people, students, persons with medical conditions preventing them from flying who need trains as a means of travel; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak is energy efficient and environmentally beneficial, consuming about half as much energy per passenger mile as airlines and causes less air pollution; and

~~WHEREAS, Amtrak pays a fuel tax that airlines do not pay; and~~

WHEREAS, States may use highway trust fund money as an 80% federal match for a variety of nonhighway programs, but they are prohibited from using such moneys for Amtrak projects; and