

WHEREAS, Soviet troops have been engaged in brutal attacks against the people, government, and communications facilities of Lithuania and Latvia, resulting in the deaths of at least 20 civilians and injury to more than 200 civilians; and

WHEREAS, Soviet troops appear to be preparing for similar military action against the people and government of Estonia; and

WHEREAS, The United States has never recognized the forced annexation of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia; and

WHEREAS, It has been the consistent policy of every United States administration since the end of World War II to support freedom and independence of the "captive nations" such as Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia; and

WHEREAS, The United States government has consistently warned President Gorbachev that the use of force in the Baltic states could seriously jeopardize United State-Soviet relations and President Bush has publicly appealed to the leaders of the Soviet Union to "resist using force" in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State of Maryland urges the President to support and the Congress of the United States to enact House Resolution 559, sponsored by Representatives Cardin, Mfume, McMillen, and others, to make the independence of the Baltic republics a condition for the granting of Most Favored Nation Status to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable J. Danforth Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the United States Senate, the Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Helen Delich Bentley, Benjamin L. Cardin, C. Thomas McMillen, Steny H. Hoyer, Beverly B. Byron, Kweisi Mfume, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.