

## JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

## No. 5.

Preamble. WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States imposed on Congress the duty of providing for organizing and arming the militia of the several States; and Congress did in pursuance thereof, on the twenty-third day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eight, pass a law making a permanent annual appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars, to provide arms as aforesaid, to be apportioned among the several States; and

Preamble. WHEREAS, By reason of the increase in the population, from eight to upward of forty millions, and the increase in the number of States, from thirteen to thirty-seven, the present annual quota allotted to this State of the aforesaid appropriation, is insufficient to arm the militia of the State, and an onerous charge is imposed upon the State Treasury to supply from time to time the deficiency; and

Preamble. WHEREAS, the Governor of this State has adverted in his message to the importance of arming the volunteer organizations with the improved breech-loaders; and the said organizations are now for the most part armed with inferior muzzle-loading weapons; and

Preamble. WHEREAS, a bill is now pending before Congress largely increasing the annual appropriation for the purpose of providing arms and ordinance stores for the whole body of the militia of the United States; among other things, providing that all arms issued to the States and territories shall be of the same patterns as are adopted for the United States' Army; therefore

Requested to urge. *Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Senators in Congress from this State be instructed, and the representatives requested to urge