

Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Royden P. Dyson, 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.

Signed May 2, 1990.

No. 8

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 23)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Surplus Acreage at Ft. George G. Meade

FOR the purpose of requesting the United States ~~Army~~ Department of Defense to transfer approximately 9,000 acres at Ft. George G. Meade to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an addition to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center for certain purposes.

WHEREAS, A 9,000 acre portion of Ft. George G. Meade in Anne Arundel County may be declared excess to the needs of the U.S. Army under the Base Closure and Realignment Act (U.S. Public Law 100-526); and

WHEREAS, This 9,000 acre tract is primarily mature, undeveloped forest consisting of over 6,900 acres of contiguous forest land, the largest remaining tract of forest land in central Maryland, located 18 miles from the centers of Baltimore and Washington and 12 miles west of Annapolis; and

WHEREAS, The Ft. Meade acreage, when combined with adjacent land at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Area, constitutes a contiguous forest of over 15,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, The site contains over 1,200 acres of nontidal wetlands within the floodplain corridor of the Patuxent and Little Patuxent Rivers which protect the three miles of the site bordering the Patuxent River and four miles bordering the Little Patuxent River; and

WHEREAS, There are over 106 breeding species of birds on the 9,000 acre tract, including federally protected bald eagles and other species such as pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, barred owls, black ducks, and numerous rare songbird species; and

WHEREAS, Many species of plants abound on the site, including the Maryland