

NO. 13.

REQUESTING Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States from the State of Maryland to use all honorable means to secure the immediate passage, as a War measure, of the Bill now pending in the House of Representatives, known as H. R. 9683, having for its purpose the employment of prison labor for the production of War supplies.

WHEREAS, the general shortage of labor has, in the opinion of the President of the United States, made necessary the use of prison labor in the production of War supplies; and

WHEREAS, there has been introduced into the Congress of the United States a bill having the approval of the President of the United States and drawn by representatives of the Departments of War, Navy and Labor, the American Federation of Labor, the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, which bill, known as H. R. 9683, has been favorably reported;

WHEREAS, it was stated in Chapter 556 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of the year nineteen hundred and sixteen to be the policy of this State that contract labor be abolished; and

WHEREAS, certain contracts in force at the time said Act was passed have prevented the carrying out of this policy; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable that the labor of the prisoners in the penal institutions of this State be available for use on the State Roads and in the carrying on of other public works, which use of said prison labor is not now practicable because of said contracts; and

WHEREAS, if the said Bill H. R. 9683, now pending in Congress of the United States, be enacted into law, it will make possible the use of said labor on the public roads, and at the same time aid in the successful prosecution of the present war; now, therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Senators and Representatives in Congress of the United States from the State of Maryland be requested to use all honorable means to have the Bill now pending in the House of Representatives of the United States, known as H. R. 9683, having