

available to the commission during the course of its work; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the commission on self-insurance be requested to submit its report to the Governor prior to the regular session of the General Assembly in 1956 in order that the Governor may transmit the report to this Body when it convenes in February, 1956.

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No. 8

(Senate Joint Resolution 13)

Senate Joint Resolution commending the individuals and groups responsible for the instigation and perpetuation of the Maryland-Cornell Automotive Crash Injury Research program.

Injuries and deaths resulting from highway accidents are a matter of grave and continuing concern in Maryland. Despite many excellent measures taken to prevent accidents, the total number of people killed and injured have not decreased during recent years. During 1953, 524 men, women and children were killed in highway accidents within the state borders, while 14,565 were injured in degrees varying from minor to a substantial proportion of permanent disabilities. During 1954, 521 persons were killed, and 14,761 were injured.

In the face of this serious situation, there is one encouraging development that holds great promise of future corrective measures aimed at reducing the consequences of accidents.

This is a cooperative program known as Automotive Crash Injury Research in which the Maryland State Police Department, the Maryland Traffic Safety Commission, the Maryland Chief Medical Examiner, and the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland are collaborating with Cornell University Medical College. This program is part of an interstate effort which is now heralded by safety experts and organizations throughout the country as one of the most progressive safety research projects in years. This research effort is producing important new information concerning the specific mechanical causes of personal injuries and deaths in passenger car accidents. This information can be used by auto manufacturers as a basis for the design of future automobiles which will offer more protection when accidents happen. The successful progress of this study shows great promise of reducing a substantial proportion of the needless and excessive injuries seen today.

Participating groups in Maryland were among the first to join this important research program. Much of its successful development has been due to the unusual foresight displayed by the Maryland Traffic Safety Commission, Maryland State Police and medical officials in seeing the possibilities of such an activity.

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EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.