

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Maryland concurs with the findings and recommendations of the Kirkman Report that:

(a) The community should be the focal point for the coordinated management of preventive health services for the community as a whole, and for treatment services for the chronically ill, the mentally ill, the tuberculous, the handicapped, and the acutely ill;

(b) The coordination of preventive and treatment services is hampered by a lack of uniformity in their financial structure; and

(c) Each of the treatment programs was developed in answer to a specific categorical need. Limited program objectives, however, have proved costly to the State and have contributed to an inefficient use of medical services and facilities. As the years pass, as our population grows, as costs rise, and as strides are made in both the prevention and treatment of illness, a crisis of major proportions will develop. The magnitude of that crisis will be intensified if a sound framework is not developed at the earliest possible date, and the cost may well be more than that of some relatively simple preventive measures taken at the appropriate time. Use of a single formula to finance comprehensive health programs is just such a preventive measure. In addition to alleviating existing problems and providing a framework for patient-centered preventive and care services, a sound financial structure will provide a blueprint now for solving problems in the future; now therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That deep appreciation be extended to the members of the Committees who worked so diligently in the development of the Case Report and the Kirkman Report; and be it further*

*Resolved, that the Bureau of Fiscal Research be directed to give attention to this problem and, working closely with the agencies and offices concerned, develop a formula for the sound and equitable financing of public health services to achieve those objectives of the Kirkman Report which are cited in the final preamble of this Joint Resolution, in sufficient time that the budget for the 1963 fiscal year may be prepared in accordance with the findings of this study; and be it further*

*Resolved, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this Joint Resolution to the Medical Care Committee of the State Planning Commission under whose auspices the Case and Kirkman Reports were developed, and to the Chairmen of those Committees, Mr. Richard W. Case and Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, and to each of the members of the respective Committees.*

Approved May 3, 1961.