

WHEREAS, Under laws of the State of Maryland and of many of her sister States illegitimate children do not inherit from their natural fathers; and

WHEREAS, by the provisions of the Social Security laws of the United States as presently enacted, children of insured individuals are entitled to insurance benefits only if they would share in the distribution of such individuals' intestate personal property under applicable State law; and

WHEREAS, by reason of this restriction in the Social Security laws illegitimate children of fathers domiciled in the State of Maryland and in other like States are deprived of federal insurance benefits to which they would be entitled were it not for the unfortunate circumstances of their illegitimacy; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Maryland does not deem it practicable or desirable to alter the inheritance laws of the State in this respect, but, rather, considers that amendment of the federal Social Security laws to provide that an illegitimate child may receive benefits through the man who either has acknowledged the child's paternity or has been declared the child's natural father by court proceedings, would be an appropriate means to remedy this inequity, if such change is found to be economically feasible and can be made without prejudicing the benefits now allowed the man's legitimate children; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Congress of the United States be memorialized to study and consider, by appropriate committees, the advisability of amending the federal Social Security laws so as to provide that an illegitimate child may receive benefits through the man acknowledged or decreed to be his natural father; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be directed to send copies of this Joint Resolution under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, to the Vice-President of the United States as President of the Senate of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to each member of the Maryland Delegation in the Congress of the United States.

Approved May 6, 1963.

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No. 23

(House Joint Resolution 3)

House Joint Resolution requesting the Board of Public Welfare to provide within the State Department of Public Welfare an integrated statewide social work service to counsel and advise and be available to all persons whose circumstances may affect the health and welfare of women illegitimately pregnant or of illegitimate children.