

No. 16

(Senate Joint Resolution 28)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Legislative Council to initiate a study concerning the proper jurisdiction for juvenile courts throughout the State, and the most effective means of establishing uniform and adequate probation services to juvenile courts.

The General Assembly of Maryland is requesting the Legislative Council to initiate a study to determine

1. An appropriate and uniform age limit for the jurisdiction of juvenile courts throughout the State.
2. An appropriate age limit for the commitment of youthful offenders to institutions for the detention and training of juveniles, and
3. The most effective means of establishing uniform and adequate probation services to the juvenile courts of Maryland.

Juvenile delinquency today is regarded as one of the most serious social problems facing the community, it being a by-product of family breakdown, unemployment, inadequate housing and education, discrimination, and other major ills of our society; and

The difference in age limits for the Juvenile Court of Baltimore City and for the Juvenile Courts of the several counties of Maryland has resulted in the unequal administration of justice and has rendered difficult the planning and administration of proper institutional facilities for youthful offenders; and

The first annual report of the Advisory Council on Child Welfare established by Chapter 424 of the Acts of 1963 has disclosed that Maryland has no uniform statewide probation service for juvenile courts; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Legislative Council is requested to initiate a study to determine an appropriate and uniform age limit for the jurisdiction of Juvenile Courts throughout the State; an appropriate age limit for the commitment of youthful offenders to institutions for the detention and training of juveniles; and the most effective means of establishing uniform and adequate probation services to the Juvenile Courts of Maryland; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislative Council is requested to avail itself of the services of the Advisory Council on Child Welfare in the making of this study, the results of which shall be made available to the General Assembly at the beginning of the 1966 Legislative Session; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Legislative Council of Maryland.

Approved May 4, 1965.