

WHEREAS, The necessity for revision of criminal procedures in this State arises from the following conditions:

(a) The public welfare requires that the criminal laws of the State be at all times fully, fairly and effectively enforced and administered; and

(b) In recent years decisions of the United States Supreme Court and of other Federal courts have caused radical changes in the concepts of Federal constitutional law heretofore existing with respect to the rights of persons accused of crime, have increased greatly the burdens on State officials charged with the duty of detecting crime and with the apprehension and prosecution of criminals and have thrown doubt on the legality of the conviction of persons now in prison; and

(c) A comprehensive and thorough study of all pertinent statutes, rules of court and court decisions with respect to the prosecution of persons accused of crime and of all procedures for the detection and apprehension of criminals and methods of training police and other officials charged with the detection of crime and apprehension of criminals is necessary in order to devise the best possible methods under present day conditions for fully, fairly and effectively enforcing and administering the criminal laws of the State of Maryland; and

(d) Such a study cannot be made by the members of the General Assembly within the limited time at their disposal; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable at the same time that the above studies are being made to review such aspects of the administration of criminal justice in the State as may be desirable and in conjunction with this review to prepare guides for trial magistrates and for police and law enforcement officers which will enumerate their duties and functions; and

WHEREAS, The studies described above are matters which are inter-related and they should, therefore, be reviewed by a single commission divided into three parts, and of the studies referred to the General Assembly deems the review of criminal procedures as the most urgent study and one which, if feasible, ought to be completed first by the Commission; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor of Maryland is hereby requested to appoint a Commission to make a comprehensive review of the criminal laws and criminal procedures and the administration of criminal justice in the State of Maryland, and the Commission is requested to make its report with its recommendations to the Governor and the Legislative Council for submission to the General Assembly; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Governor is requested to provide such funds as the Commission may need to carry out its duties and to employ professional staff for the Commission from contingent funds at his disposal; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution ~~are~~ BE sent to the Governor of Maryland and to the ~~President~~ PRESIDENTS of the Mary-