

rights and to land under public navigable waters and the corresponding laws of other states relating thereto.

WHEREAS, by common law all land under public navigable waters is State property; and

WHEREAS, land under public navigable waters supports *valuable* shellfish beds and is the spawning ground and nursery ground of valuable populations of fish, all of which the State is obligated to protect and preserve and is the recreation area for many people; and

WHEREAS, individuals and corporations express an increasing interest in exploiting land under public navigable waters for mineral resources and to extend water-front real estate; and

WHEREAS, State administration of land under public navigable waters is confused by existing statutes some of which apply only to the Chesapeake Bay, some only to the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay and none specifically to the public navigable waters of Worcester County and the Atlantic Ocean off Worcester County; and

WHEREAS, State administration of land under public navigable waters is further confused by vague and ill-defined rights and privileges of riparian landowners and by the jurisdiction of the Federal government over navigation channels; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Legislative Council be requested to appoint a special subcommittee to study Maryland laws relating to riparian rights and to land under public navigable waters, and the corresponding laws of other states partly covered by public navigable waters; and be it further

Resolved, That the special subcommittee be instructed to report its conclusions and recommendations on or before December 1, 1965; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairman and the Secretary of the Legislative Council and the Governor.

Approved May 4, 1965.

No. 44

(House Joint Resolution 68)

House Joint Resolution requesting the Legislative Council to appoint a vigorous and able committee to study and resolve the persistent increases in public welfare costs.

The members of the General Assembly are strongly critical of the constant and persistent increases in the cost of public welfare in this State.

Indications now are that in fiscal 1966 the cost of welfare in this State will be in excess of \$82,000,000.00, representing an increase of some \$14,000,000.00 over the present year. Without question, unless strong action is taken to arrest this trend, the figures will continue to rise sharply year after year.