

WHEREAS, Statistics indicate that at least fifteen thousand youngsters leave school each year without graduating, and close to one-half of these leave when they reach the age of sixteen, or the age to which they are required to attend school; and

WHEREAS, It is well established that, due to the difficulty of obtaining employment, economic pressures and in some cases the indifference of their parents, these children resort to criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, Various local, State and Federal projects have been attempted to alleviate this problem; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland is of the opinion that legislation in one area will not be sufficient to encompass the broad scope of the problem of drop-outs; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly would like to have the opinion of experts in the field of education to express the results of their studies and recommendations towards raising the mandatory school age and programs which would provide an incentive and new fields of interest for these students who elect to neglect their education and which would serve to encourage them to remain in school; AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE TO GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE IMPORTANT AND CRUCIAL EFFECT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor appoint a study committee of at least three persons, in addition to which shall include, as an ex-officio member, the State Superintendent of Schools, to study, report and recommend, positive courses of action which they feel require legislation, in order to alleviate the problem of drop-outs, including their recommendations towards increasing the mandatory school age, with such report being made to the Governor, General Assembly and people of Maryland before the convening of the 1967 Legislature; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable J. Millard Tawes, Governor, J. Jerome Frampton, Jr., President of the State Board of Education, James A. Sensenbaugh, Superintendent of Schools, and the various superintendents of schools in each of the counties and Baltimore City.

Approved May 6, 1966.

---

No. 24

(Senate Joint Resolution 31)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Governor to appoint a legislative committee to study possible legislation to control air pollution.

WHEREAS, A large portion of the State of Maryland is located in the megalopolis which stretches from Richmond, Virginia, to Boston, Massachusetts; and