

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State of Maryland, under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, is requested to send a copy of this joint resolution to each Board of County Commissioners or County Council in the several respective counties of Maryland, to the Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, to the Presiding Officers of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and to the Maryland Congressional Delegation in Washington, D. C.

Approved May 4, 1967.

---

No. 7

(Senate Joint Resolution 7)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Library of Congress to return certain historical documents to the State of Maryland.

The General Assembly of Maryland requests the Library of Congress to return a series of valuable documents and records to the State of Maryland.

These documents, all of which date from the 18th Century, are described by archivists as "fugitives."

They are part of a series of journals and account books owned by the State and were lost many years ago when the State of Maryland had not created a Hall of Records for the careful preservation of such old documents and materials.

The Library of Congress acquired these documents in the year 1867 when it purchased the library of a private collector.

While the Library of Congress acted in perfectly good faith in acquiring by purchase these old Maryland documents, it is also true that the State cannot give away or dispose of such records, and any purchaser naturally undergoes the risk of having them reclaimed.

A joint resolution has been introduced into the Congress of the United States, directing the Library of Congress to turn over these old and valuable records to the Maryland Hall of Records.

The General Assembly of Maryland adds its enthusiastic endorsement to the proposal for returning these records to their native State. The General Assembly is requesting all members of the Congress, in particular the several members of the Maryland Delegation in the Congress, to support the joint resolution to require their return; now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That this State legislature strongly supports the request that the number of 18th Century documents belonging to the State of Maryland be returned to the Hall of Records of Maryland by the present custodian, the Library of Congress; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State of Maryland is directed to send copies of this joint resolution, under the Great Seal of the State