

*Resolved*, That this committee is requested thoroughly to study and evaluate the various proposals made for changing or improving the rules, operations, procedures, and functions of the two houses in the General Assembly of Maryland.

Approved May 4, 1967.

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No. 9

(Senate Joint Resolution 9)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the State Roads Commission to adopt a changed policy with respect to the improvement of secondary roads in the State.

WHEREAS, The policy of the State Roads Commission with regard to improvement of the secondary road system in the State has been to replace the old road with a new road on a new location, under which the Commission receives a considerable amount of federal-aid money, and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government has recently announced a reduction in the amount of aid funds available for allocation to the various states, which could well result in a slowdown in the pace of reconstruction of the State's secondary roads, and

WHEREAS, In view of the possibility of reduction of federal-aid funds, the General Assembly is suggesting to the Roads Commission that a different policy with respect to secondary roads is needed, and

WHEREAS, Such a policy would involve improvement of existing secondary roads by widening of shoulders, black topping and straightening of curves except in such cases where renovation is not feasible for engineering purposes, and

WHEREAS, This kind of improvement would take less property, be less expensive, provide the public with more immediate use of the improved roadway and require less maintenance, and

WHEREAS, the improvement of existing secondary roads as suggested above would mean a smaller expense for annual maintenance of these roads, which would produce another beneficial result, that of reducing the amount of funds required to be transferred annually from construction monies into the maintenance fund, freeing additional sums for construction purposes, and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes there is merit to this proposal and urges the Roads Commission to give consideration to it, now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That we urge the State Roads Commission to consider change in the policy of improvement of the secondary road system of the State by improving existing roads instead of constructing new roads to replace existing secondary roads in the State, and be it further