

The people of this State learned with deep shock of the sudden passing of Lt. Col. Virgil I. Grissom, Lt. Col. Edward H. White II, and Lt. Cmdr. Roger B. Chaffee. The three spacemen were going through preliminary drills about three weeks before opening the most ambitious space program in the history of the United States. They were scheduled to have left Cape Kennedy on February 21, 1967 in the inauguration of the final phases of this nation's drive to land men on the moon.

The State of Maryland joins in the wave of sorrow which swept over the United States and all the world at the unfortunate accident which snuffed out the lives of these three men.

They join the long list of American heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice for their country. America will miss their experience, knowledge, and skill but America will long remember their devotion to duty and their high-minded endeavors on behalf of their country and their fellow countrymen. All of them willingly faced danger for the progress and protection of this nation.

The thanks of every American are due to these three brave astronauts and on behalf of the people of the State of Maryland, this General Assembly expresses regrets of all our people over their untimely passing; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the deep sympathies and regrets of every citizen in Maryland are expressed over the unfortunate accident which suddenly took the lives of Lt. Col. Virgil I. Grissom, Lt. Col. Edward H. White II, and Lt. Cmdr. Roger B. Chaffee; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Secretary of State of Maryland is directed under the Great Seal of Maryland, to send copies of this resolution to the families of the late Col. Grissom, Col. White and Commander Chaffee, to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and to institutions from which they graduated.*

Approved May 4, 1967.

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No. 41

(House Joint Resolution 19)

House Joint Resolution urging the Maryland Constitutional Convention to consider certain changes relating to a newly elected Governor and General Assembly.

WHEREAS, The 1967 General Assembly is a newly elected and reapportioned legislature but it is apparent that the procedures for installing a newly elected Governor and a newly elected General Assembly are inadequate; and

WHEREAS, The new General Assembly, because of the limitations of the present State Constitution, has been unable to conduct its business with the greatest dispatch; and