

OWN PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, YET ARE NOT SERIOUSLY ENOUGH DERANGED TO BE COMMITTED; AND

WHEREAS, Maryland and other states have moved increasingly in the direction of community, rather than institutional, services for those handicapped AND SENILE ELDERLY able to benefit from such and to the development of each individual—no matter how handicapped OR SENILE—to the limits of his capabilities; and

WHEREAS, If the handicapped AND SENILE ELDERLY are to reside in the community, functioning to the extent they can as self-reliant citizens, they must all the more have the protection and supervision they need in those areas of living where they cannot care for themselves; and

WHEREAS, There must be a resource to take up where the parents OR NEXT OF KIN can no longer continue; and

WHEREAS, Numerous state and national study groups, including the President's Panel on Mental Retardation, have all urged the individual states to consider their role in the resolution of this dilemma; and

WHEREAS, Maryland's own resources are at present limited in coping with this most pressing concern; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor of Maryland be requested to appoint a Commission to study the guardianship problems posed by the mentally retarded and other seriously handicapped persons AND THOSE ELDERLY PERSONS NOT SUFFICIENTLY ALERT TO HANDLE THEIR OWN PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS YET NOT SERIOUSLY ENOUGH DERANGED TO BE COMMITTED, and the State's role therein; said Commission to consist of not more than fifteen members, including representatives of the legal profession, the clergy, the Maryland Association for Retarded Children and other parent inspired voluntary groups concerned with the handicapped, the Maryland Retardate Trust, the State Welfare Department, the State Department of Mental Hygiene, the State Health Department, the State Law Department, local welfare departments and agencies, THE STATE OF MARYLAND COMMISSION ON THE AGING, and the General Assembly of Maryland; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the findings and recommendations of the study be submitted to the Chairman of the Legislative Council and to the Governor on or before November 1, 1968.

Approved April 10, 1968.

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No. 8

(Senate Joint Resolution 6)

Senate Joint Resolution congratulating the Board of Natural Resources on its authorship of *A Report on the Problems of*