

terminate ~~in 1972~~ UPON COMPLETION OF THE CURRENT INTERSTATE PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of Maryland believes that the Federal highway programs financed by the Federal Highway Users Fund should be allowed to terminate ~~at the expiration of the contracts let in 1972~~ UPON COMPLETION OF THE CURRENT INTERSTATE PROGRAM.

The legislature recognizes that the Federal Highway Program, which is largely the work of Congressman George H. Fallon of Maryland, was a necessary and good program. From its inception, this program was intended to be only a 10-year program. Maryland legislators feel that the goals of this program have been largely reached and that it is our considered opinion that it should be allowed to terminate as scheduled.

We understand that new goals and objectives are being sought for this giant Federal program, so that it may be continued. However, regardless of how attractive these goals can be made, it is our opinion that if this program is terminated and the same amount of tax monies which Maryland taxpayers now pay into the Federal Highway Users Fund, or even less, is kept in the State, substantially more can be accomplished for our highway users than under any extension of the present Federal program.

It is obvious to all of us that the proper maintenance of our roads is one of the major tasks which faces the State of Maryland. Also, it is imperative that we accelerate our secondary roads program. It is also desirable that we allow more money to flow to the counties for local roads in this State.

In order to accomplish these goals and to meet these great needs, it will be necessary for funds that have been diverted to the Federal government be made available to the State and its subdivisions. The Federal Highway Program has not provided funds for maintenance which has left us with totally inadequate funds for maintaining these and other highways.

We believe that all of these things can be expedited more efficiently by routing our tax dollars through Annapolis rather than through Washington.

For these reasons, the General Assembly of Maryland firmly believes that the nation's road needs have now shifted to the State and local level and that more needs to be accomplished here without new tax burdens to our citizens. We hereby petition our members of the House of Representatives and the members of the United States Senate to use their influence to allow the Federal Highway program to terminate in 1972; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Members of Congress of the United States are requested to allow the Federal Highway Program to terminate after the ~~expiration~~ COMPLETION of the ~~contracts~~ FEDERAL INTERSTATE HIGHWAY PROGRAM AS NOW PLANNED ~~let in 1972~~ and to allow no further extensions of this program beyond those ~~currently in effect~~ THEN IN EFFECT; and be it further