

## No. 54

(House Joint Resolution 80)

House Joint Resolution requesting the establishment of a Commission to study Baltimore City Hospitals and its program, financing and development in relation to State programs for the provision of medical services and training.

WHEREAS, Baltimore City Hospitals is a complex consisting of several medical institutions including a general hospital, a hospital for the treatment of chronic diseases, a tuberculosis hospital, a nursing home, a gerontological institution, a facility utilized for the training of physicians, nurses and other medical specialities; and

WHEREAS, Baltimore City Hospitals has had a long and distinguished history of over one hundred years of service, stemming from the period when its services were primarily local, but certain functions of Baltimore City Hospitals are now in effect integral parts of the State's medical program, e.g. the tuberculosis hospital, the chronic disease hospital, etc., and other parts of the hospital have varying relationships with State-administered and State-financed programs, such as inpatient and outpatient medical care programs; and

WHEREAS, recent major changes in Federal and State financial arrangements in the field of health including hospital care and outpatient services have raised serious question as to the financial support which Baltimore City Hospitals should or can expect in the Statewide hospital program. To illustrate, the State of Maryland recently entered into a contract to reimburse Baltimore City Hospitals for the cost of tubercular care rendered by the latter, but in the 1968 fiscal year, without prior notice, the reimbursement to City Hospitals was limited to a maximum of 150 tubercular patients; and in the 1969 fiscal year budget, it is proposed to limit Baltimore City Hospitals to a total of 90 tubercular patients although there are at present over 190 such eligible patients occupying beds in City Hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Baltimore City Hospitals has developed into a fine medical institution capable of rendering unique and valuable services to the population of the area of which Baltimore City is the hub; and an increasing number and proportion of Baltimore City Hospitals patients are not residents of the City of Baltimore but have been brought there because of emergency or because of the special services the hospital is prepared to render in particular areas of medicine; and many other patients outside of Baltimore City would profit from the availability of some of the hospital's specialized services; and

WHEREAS, consideration is now under way as to the possible development by the State of Maryland of a third institution for the training of physicians and it is possible that Baltimore City Hospitals may provide a useful training resource for such a medical school; and