

WHEREAS, As a result of the beating inflicted upon the said Samuel Dixon on the said 7th day of April, 1968, he sustained serious, painful and permanent injuries to his head and face, and as a result thereof, if in the future he sustains any blow or impact to the right side of his face, such may cause the area to shatter and a severe blow could cause a plastic piece inserted in his face as a result of the injury sustained to pierce his brain; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Governor of Maryland be and he is hereby authorized to include in the next appropriation for the benefit of the Department of Correctional Services a sum of money, the amount to be determined by the Board of Public Works, which shall be paid by the Department of Correctional Services to Samuel Dixon in full and final compensation to him for injuries sustained by him at the Maryland Correctional Training Center on the 7th day of April, 1968.

Approved May 2, 1969.

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No. 18

(House Joint Resolution 1)

House Joint Resolution requesting the study and cooperation of the State of Virginia in assuring the continued supply of blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay area.

WHEREAS, The members of the General Assembly of Maryland are vitally concerned over an alarming decrease in the supply of blue crabs in the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

This shortage has had its effects also in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay lying within the State of Virginia, and the General Assembly of Maryland respectfully suggests to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia that the problem is equally serious in both states and should receive the concerted action of legislators and other officials in the two states.

Following a good catch of blue crabs in both states during the years of 1966 and 1967, the catch in the early months of 1968 has been disastrously lower. Thus, taking recent figures supplied from the State of Virginia and applying to the first eight months of the respective years of 1967 and 1968, the blue crab catch in Virginia was reduced by 31%. In the State of Maryland for the same eight month period in the years 1967 and 1968, the blue crab catch has been reduced by 66%.

The Chesapeake Bay blue crab has a life span of approximately two years. Most of them hatch during early summer in the Virginia waters and then spread throughout the Bay area, maturing at about 14 months of age. Most of the adult females return to the lower Bay in the fall months, while the males stay scattered. The migration of the females occurs at any time after mating and most often in the months of September, October, and November.

When the females arrive in the lower Bay, they move into the deeper waters of the channels and either hibernate or move very little within those areas from December through March. These are