

The Governor's Commission to Study School Pupil Transportation devoted considerable attention to the problems relating to school pupil transportation and whether this transportation can best be provided by public ownership of buses or by private contractors. The Commission received testimony from the State Department of Education and from private contractors concerning the advantages of each system of ownership and the relative costs of each system.

The Commission concluded that only a comprehensive and in-depth study of this complex subject will present a true and accurate picture of the cost and other factors relating to public versus private ownership of school buses.

The members of the General Assembly are concerned that transportation of public school children in Maryland be accomplished at the lowest possible cost consistent with the safety of the children involved. They also believe that a thorough and comprehensive study of the advantages and disadvantages and the relative cost including all factors needs to be made of public and private ownership of school buses.

The General Assembly believes that pending the completion of such a study, the State Board of Education and the ~~county~~ LOCAL boards of education should not undertake any modification of the present status of private and public ownership of school buses and should not encourage any change from private to public ownership of school buses; now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the General Assembly of Maryland requests ~~and directs the State Board of Education~~ THE GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND to have an independent and impartial study undertaken of the subject of public versus private ownership of school buses, and that the study devote attention to the relative cost of each system of ownership, to the ability of each system to transport pupils in rural and urban areas; and to the feasibility of single formula for reimbursement to the county ~~board~~ OR CITY BOARDS of education irrespective of whether the county OR BALTIMORE CITY utilizes public or private ownership of school buses or a combination of ownership and; be it further

*Resolved*, That this study should be completed and submitted to the General Assembly by January 1, 1971, and; be it further

*Resolved*, Pending the completion of this study, that the State Board of Education and the local boards of education should not modify the present status of private and public ownership of school buses or encourage any change from private to public ownership of school buses, and; be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution shall be sent to the GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, THE State Board of Education and to the county boards of education.

Approved April 15, 1970.

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No. 16

(Senate Joint Resolution 65)

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Governor to declare the week of April 8 through 15, 1970, as Outdoor Appreciation Week in Maryland.

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland contains outstanding natural beauty of which its citizens should be aware; and