Act from allowing medical assistance recipients to supplement the allowances paid by the State; and

WHEREAS, hardship and suffering to the indigent or medically indigent patient results from prohibiting payment of the differential; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene be requested to permit payment by a medical assistance recipient of the difference between, the rate of least expensive available nursing home care and the maximum rate allowed under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare of the United States, to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene of Maryland, and to the individual Congressmen from the State of Maryland.

Approved May 5, 1972.

No. 34

(Senate Joint Resolution 80)

Senate Joint Resolution ratifying a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women.

Whereas, The 92nd Congress of the United States has passed a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women.

WHEREAS, This Joint Resolution passed the House of Representatives of the United States on October 12, 1971, passed the Senate of the United States on March 22, 1972, and now has been submitted to a vote of the states; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland wishes to ratify this proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States which, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution of the United States, viz:

"Article

"SECTION 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Sec. 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"Sec. 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."