

governments; and

WHEREAS, Many of the State license fees, contained in Article 56 of the Annotated Code, on a variety of business activities have not been adjusted for decades even though costs, whether in the private or public sector, have increased considerably; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that these license fees will produce over \$3,000,000 in revenues for the counties and Baltimore City and the State's 3% fee of certain licenses to fund the License Bureau of the Comptroller's Office exceeds \$107,000; and

WHEREAS, Although the potential gain through an analysis of these license fees would not be large in terms of the total State or local government budgets, adjustments of license fees could increase revenues for the local governments; and

WHEREAS, There also may be inequities among various businesses subject to these license fees; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Legislative Council, through the Joint Budget and Audit Committee, House Committee on Ways and Means or the Senate Finance Committee, undertake a study of the license fees imposed in Article 56 of the Annotated Code of Maryland and submit a report of findings and recommendations to the 1974 Session of the General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of the Legislative Council.

Approved May 21, 1973.

No. 37

(Senate Joint Resolution 25)

Senate Joint Resolution expressing the opposition of the General Assembly of Maryland to any international agreement between the United States and the Republic of Korea which will encourage the importation into the United States of foreign produced oysters and shellfish.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has learned of an impending agreement between the governments of the United States and the Republic of Korea, which agreement is designed to make possible the importation of Korean-produced frozen oysters and other shellfish into the United States; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement envisions the importation of up to \$25 million of Korean-produced frozen oysters and shellfish at the expense of, and in competition with, American and Maryland products; and

WHEREAS, it would be extremely difficult to maintain quality control and health standards over the foreign production and processing of shellfish, to the detriment of American consumers; and

WHEREAS, the American oyster and shellfish industry is producing an ample quantity of high quality products for the American market; and