

(Senate Joint Resolution 7)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Fire Service Extension of University of Maryland

FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor to appoint a Commission ~~[[of]]~~ on Fire Services to determine the future role of the Fire Service Extension of the University of Maryland in the training of firemen and rescue squad members, to provide for the members of the Commission, and to require a report of the Commission's conclusions and recommendations.

WHEREAS, The Fire Service Extension at the University of Maryland has historically provided training for the majority of firemen in the State, and has provided much of the training of rescue squad members.

Formerly, fire services in the State were largely provided by volunteer members, whereas at the present these services are provided in some areas by volunteers, in others in part by paid firemen and in part by volunteers, and in others solely by paid firemen.

While the Fire Service Extension has continued to provide excellent training for volunteers, technological developments in building construction and urbanization of the population require the Extension to provide a more elaborate form of training.

The training of paid firemen has been performed by the local governments in several jurisdictions through training facilities of the county government.

The Fire Service Extension has prepared a ten year plan of regional centers for an expanded program of training, and has proposed an expansion of the facilities of the Extension at College Park.

The demands on the University of Maryland budget may not permit an increase in the funds allocated to the Extension sufficient to provide for implementation either of the ten year regional center plan or the proposed expansion of the Extension's facilities.

There is a need to determine how the paid fire services in the State fit into the overall program of training so that all fire services in the State can benefit from State funding.

As stated in the Report of the Senate Finance Committee in 1973 to the Legislative Council, there is a