

(House Joint Resolution 62)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Youth Services Bureaus

FOR the purpose of encouraging State funding of Youth Services Bureaus in the State.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland believes that the Youth Services Bureaus are a valuable and needed service. Youth Services Bureaus have been instrumental in helping anti-social youth develop socially-acceptable behavior patterns; and

WHEREAS, Youth Services Bureaus are staffed by professional workers who are sensitive to the needs of young people. The service is personal, seeks to change behavior, and molds solid citizens. These Bureaus have been funded under three-year Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration program funds. Funding for five of the 15 Youth Services Bureaus in the State is ending between June 30, 1974, and September 1, 1974. The Bureaus began as demonstration projects. Hence funding has been limited to a certain number of years. Unless the State assumes total funding of these programs, many youths who are served by the five programs must be abandoned; and

WHEREAS, The closing of Youth Services Bureaus may increase spending on youth by the State in the form of higher crime rates, detention homes, and services to delinquents. Whereas it costs the State up to \$13,000 per year to maintain one youth in a training school, it does cost, on the average between \$29 - \$350 per year to keep a youth in the Youth Services Bureaus programs. It is the obligation of the State to renew the funding of the Youth Services Bureaus since the State did accept the obligation and the realization that Federal funds would have a time limitation. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor is requested to include in his supplemental budget [\$431,000] necessary funds to be given to the Department of [[Hygiene and Mental Health]] Health and Mental Hygiene for the continued operation of five Youth Service Bureaus as Federal funding terminates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That The President of the Senate and The Speaker of the House are designated jointly to send copies of this Resolution to The Honorable Governor Marvin Mandel, Governor of Maryland; Neal Solomon, Secretary of Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;