

(House Joint Resolution 76)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Flood Control

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of State Planning to conduct a study and prepare a report for the General Assembly concerning flood control and flood plain management programs effective in the State of Maryland.

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland and its local subdivisions have spent, and will continue to spend, millions of dollars to maintain and improve the quality of the waters of the State; and to develop innovative programs to control accelerated erosion and sedimentation;

WHEREAS, Maximum public benefit to the citizens of the State of Maryland cannot be realized from a water quality program unless complementary steps are taken to control the patterns of runoff and stream flows;

WHEREAS, The policy criteria adopted by federal, State and local governments for flood control and flood plain management appear to lack consistency, and possibly are at conflict, and the flood control and flood plain management programs of federal, State and local government appear to lack sufficient coordination to insure avoidance of unnecessary duplication, and to adequately protect the streams and flood plains of the State; and

WHEREAS, An inadequate flood control and flood plain management program will result in increased capital expenditures by governments, loss of property, human suffering, and degradation of the value of the streams, rivers, bays, and estuaries of the State as aquatic habitat, and degradation of the recreational and aesthetic values of many of the water bodies of the State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Natural Resources in coordination with the Department of State Planning shall study and evaluate the flood control and flood plain management programs of the relevant federal agencies and the local subdivisions of the State of Maryland and report to the General Assembly by October 1, 1975; and be it further