

FOR the purpose of urging the Congress to amend the Safe Streets Act to designate Prince George's and Montgomery Counties as federal impact crime areas to permit those counties to get their fair share of federal crime-fighting funds.

WHEREAS, The District of Columbia Omnibus Crime Control Bill has increased the size of the District of Columbia Police Department, has provided for better lighting and better crime-fighting techniques, and the Safe Streets Act has provided the District of Columbia with even more funds to fight criminals.

The combination of these two laws has made the commission of a crime in the District of Columbia tougher for the criminal; and the criminal has turned, therefore, to the suburban counties of Maryland to perpetuate his dastardly deed of violence. Due to the increased effectiveness of the District of Columbia Police Force, there has been no question but that there has been a shocking increase in the percentage of District of Columbia residents committing crimes in Maryland.

The recently published "Crime Analysis 1975, Prince George's County" issued by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, indicates that during 1974 one crime was committed every eight minutes in the communities of Prince George's County. Nearly 35 percent of those persons arrested for crimes committed in Prince George's County were residents of other jurisdictions; one out of every four defendants of serious offenses were residents of the District of Columbia.

It, therefore, conclusively follows that Prince George's and Montgomery Counties need more police officers and more money for better police equipment and police techniques in order to handle the problem. The police officers of the two counties are highly professional and are doing the best job possible, but they are severely handicapped by lack of funds available to fight the battle properly.

The citizens and taxpayers of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties are overburdened already with taxes, and the only fair resolution of the problem would be to amend the federal law in order that Prince George's and Montgomery Counties receive their fair share of crime-fighting federal money; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Congress be urged to amend the Safe Streets Act to designate Prince George's and Montgomery Counties as Federal Impact Crime Areas in order to permit those counties to get a fair share of federal crime-fighting funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland Congressional Delegation; Winfield M. Kelly,