

recommendations be submitted to the General Assembly by the 1977 Session; and directing that copies of this Resolution be sent to officials.

WHEREAS, There presently exists no uniform laws or guidelines concerning the packaging, marking and shipping of hazardous materials which are transported through Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The lack of central control and supervision of the shipping of hazardous materials across Maryland constitutes a serious threat to the health and safety of every citizen of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, This threat may take the form of such lethal materials as dynamite, propane gas and nuclear materials; and

WHEREAS, No in-depth training in inspection and handling of hazardous materials exists for State and local personnel; and

WHEREAS, Regulations adopted by the Motor Vehicle Administration relating to hazardous materials cannot properly be enforced without better training than is now available; and

WHEREAS, Hazardous materials are in a potentially hostile transportation environment for only a brief period, but may exist for weeks or months at the manufacturing, wholesaling or consumption site; and

WHEREAS, Fire personnel and other inspection agencies have access to such sites in normal duties that transportation and police personnel do not, and by expanding their current operations could preclude mispackaged or misidentified hazardous materials from entry into the transportation system and thus exposure to the unsuspecting public; and

WHEREAS, Such possible incidents are of concern not only to fire and police personnel, the coordinated program should include but not be limited to the Department of Transportation, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Licensing and Regulation, the Public Service Commission, the Fire Marshal and the Maryland National Guard; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the State government to protect its citizens from the type of harm which might result from inadequately controlled transporting of hazardous materials; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Transportation, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Natural