

no later than June 1, 1976; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable James B. Coulter, Secretary, State Department of Natural Resources, Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; and to Thomas D. McKewen, Director, Maryland Environmental Service, Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; Dr. Neil Solomon, Secretary, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201; and to Michael I. Volk, Esquire, Committee Reporter to the Legislative Policy Committee.

Approved May 17, 1976.

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No. 79

(House Joint Resolution No. 158)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Life Preservation Advisory Groups

FOR the purpose of urging each hospital and related institution in this State to create life preservation advisory committees to advise and assist physicians and family members in [[both understanding the problems and making the decisions at or near the time of death of certain patients]] dealing with the difficult circumstances which arise in certain cases when patients are terminally ill.

[[WHEREAS, All Marylanders are infrequently faced with the emotional trauma of witnessing a member of their family or a friend in a hospital at or near death; and]] In certain cases, terminal illness of a patient can cause severe emotional trauma to those intimately and vitally concerned with the patient.

[[WHEREAS, Near the time of death of a patient, grief and confusion often prevail when those involved are faced with difficult decisions; and]] When death is imminent, those involved are sometimes hard put to make difficult decisions because of existing grief and confusion.

[[WHEREAS, All persons associated with the process of dying who are dying, need guidance and assistance from expert sources removed from the immediate emotional shock and capable of providing objective advice; and]] Persons inextricably involved with the inevitable death process are many times desperately in need of expert guidance and assistance from sources who are shielded from immediate emotional shock by virtue of the lack of intimate involvement in a case and thus able to provide objective