

## JOINT RESOLUTIONS

FOR the purpose of requesting ~~all-county and city police departments~~ the Maryland State Police to keep records, containing certain specific information, of certain complaints of domestic assault.

WHEREAS, Evidence indicates that physical violence inflicted by people against their spouses ~~or putative spouses~~ is prevalent in all levels of society; and

WHEREAS, Not only are these interspousal assaults physically injurious to the victim but the reliance on violence as a means of resolving domestic disputes neither produces marital harmony nor promotes an emotional atmosphere conducive to healthy childhood development; and

WHEREAS, A major obstacle in reducing the use of physical violence as a means of resolving domestic disputes is the lack of data concerning its incidence and its cause; and

WHEREAS, Collection of data and an understanding of the nature of domestic violence is a prerequisite to any informed solution to the problem; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Maryland State Police, ~~the Baltimore City Police, and all county and city police departments in the State of Maryland~~ be requested to keep records of all simple assault complaints and all aggravated assault complaints, to identify the cases arising between spouses living together, or estranged spouses, ~~or putative spouses~~, and the sex of the alleged offender and victim, and to show whether the crime was cleared by a charge and/or arrest, by the complainant failing to obtain a warrant, or by some other solution; and be it further

~~RESOLVED, That in this Resolution, the term "putative spouses" means a man and woman commonly accepted as husband and wife, although not legally married; and be it further~~

RESOLVED, That the Maryland State Police, ~~Baltimore City Police, and all of the county and city police departments in the State of Maryland~~ be requested to report back to the ~~1978 General Assembly Session~~ the General Assembly on January 1, 1979 a compilation of the statistics gathered on domestic violence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police, the Superintendent of the Baltimore City Police, and each superintendent of each and every county and city police