

Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and John F. Monaghan, Director of the Mental Retardation Administration, 201 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201; Charles G. Tildon, Chairman, and Wendy Davis, Staff Member, Health Systems Agency, Inc., Suite 1000, 501 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202; and Rudolph Cush, Director of the Highland Health Facility, 5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21224.

*Not signed by the Acting Governor.

No. 67*

(Senate Joint Resolution 45)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Use of Coal in Maryland

FOR the purpose of requesting that the possibility of converting the heating systems of Maryland's public buildings to coal be explored; and generally relating to the use of coal and to the present and future energy situation.

WHEREAS, The winter of 1976-77 has been the coldest and most severe of any winter in Maryland for more than two hundred years, with its prolonged periods of record-breaking cold; and

WHEREAS, This record cold has caused hardship on the people of Maryland and on the State government and on the various subdivisions therein by forcing them to pay considerably more money for heating and to maintain their residences and places of work at lower temperatures; and

WHEREAS, There is every expectation that this winter is just the beginning of a period of similarly cold winters that will continue to cause these hardships; and

WHEREAS, This cold has caused the Chesapeake Bay and the rivers of the State to freeze so that heating oil and fuel could not be delivered to alleviate the heating problems; and

WHEREAS, There is now left in this country a critical, at the present rate of consumption, a 15 year supply—shortage of natural gas and other petroleum-fuels a 25 year supply of oil, and that those petroleum fuels and gas that are available are becoming more and more expensive for consumers to purchase; and