

FOR the purpose of directing the Department of Economic and Community Development to study and report on the feasibility of legislation providing State tax incentives for privately financed neighborhood and community assistance programs.

WHEREAS, The physical and human problems of economically disadvantaged communities are manifold, and cannot be met entirely by governmental programs; and

WHEREAS, Private business has the capability, desire, and enlightened self interest to contribute money and resources, directly or through nonprofit community organizations, to programs for neighborhood betterment including community facilities, job training, education, crime prevention, and community services; and

WHEREAS, This private assistance has the advantage of directly involving the business community and leveraging financial incentives provided by government, with minimum bureaucratic involvement; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has had in successful operation for ten years a Neighborhood Assistance Program administered by its Department of Community Affairs, which provides credits against business taxes for qualifying contributions by businesses to approved programs, and Pennsylvania's legislation has been followed by other states; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Economic and Community Development study the desirability and feasibility of establishing a Maryland program of tax incentives for private neighborhood and community assistance activity and report its findings to the General Assembly by January 1, ~~1978~~ 1979; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable Blair Lee III, Acting Governor of the State of Maryland; the Honorable Steny Hamilton Hoyer, President of the Senate of Maryland; the Honorable John Hanson Briscoe, Speaker of the House of Delegates; ~~Mr. Joseph C. Anastasi~~ Mr. Herbert Cahan, Secretary of the Department of Economic and Community Development, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; and Mr. Michael I. Volk, 90 State Circle, Room 113, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Approved May 29, 1978.