

Services Cost Review Commission's establishment of rates of reimbursement for nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, Those actions required to accomplish this objective, according to the Department of Fiscal Services, includes, but may not be limited to: (1) providing the Health Services Cost Review Commission with sufficient personnel and financial resources to collect data and to establish rates for nursing homes; (2) enactment of State legislation to authorize the Medical Assistance Program of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to reimburse at the Commission rate; (3) requiring the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish the necessary administrative structure to coordinate the activities of certification of needs for nursing home beds, licensure and rate establishment; and (4) requiring the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to seek the necessary approval from the federal government for the aforementioned procedures; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor establish a committee to study the implementation of the authority of the Health Services Cost Review Commission to review and regulate nursing home rates in the same manner that hospital rates are reviewed and regulated; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee shall have five members: two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, two members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House, and the Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That staff and secretarial services be furnished by the State Department of Fiscal Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee shall make a report and recommendations to the General Assembly prior to the first day of the 1980 legislative session; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Governor; the Honorable James Clark, Jr., President of the Senate; the Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Alvin M. Powers, Chairman of the Health Services Health Review Commission; and Harold A. Cohen, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review Commission ways and means by which the statutory authority of the Health Services Cost Review Commission, to review and approve nursing home rates can be fully implemented, or that amended language can be included in the 1981 budget to permit the Medical Assistance Program flexibility in payment rates which will promote access to nursing homes offering comparable quality of care throughout the State to recipients of Medical Assistance; and be it further