

Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission."; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States is ratified by the State of Maryland to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution of the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Governor of the State of Maryland is requested to forward authentic copies of this Resolution, under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, to: the Honorable Cyrus R. Vance, Secretary of State of the United States, 2201 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, Vice-President of the United States, Room 2203, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, Room H-209, The Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20515; and the Honorable R.G. Freeman III, Administrator, General Services Administration, 18th and F Streets N.W., Washington, D.C. 20405.

Signed April 8, 1980.

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No. 2

(House Joint Resolution No. 5)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

The Federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977

FOR the purpose of requesting the United States Congress to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 in order to authorize the coal producing states to establish surface mining and reclamation programs within their respective states consistent with this Act, without the further requirement of consistency with federal rules and regulations.

WHEREAS, It is generally acknowledged that the overlapping and often contradictory authority of various federal and state agencies engaged in the regulation of the surface and deep mining industries has resulted in unreasonable and unnecessary burdens being placed on the economies of coal producing states, particularly in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) has continually failed to recognize or adapt to the unique topography, climate, and problems