WHEREAS, This provision permits states to finance noninstitutional services for certain developmentally disabled persons through the federal-state medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, This Act represents an excellent opportunity for the State of Maryland to expand community programs serving developmentally disabled individuals; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter (H.B. 200) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982) read(s) as follows:

Article - Health - General

19-609.

- (A)--"GROUP-HOME"--MEANS--A--COMMUNITY--BASED--FACILITY
- (1)--UNDER---THE--SUPERVISION--OF--A--RESIDENTIAL STAFF,-PROVIDES-A-HOME-FOR-AUTISTIC-INDIVIDUALS-WHO,-BECAUSE OF-THEIR-AUTISM,-REQUIRE--SPECIALIZED--LIVING--ARRANGEMENTS; AND
- (2)--ADMITS--AT--LEAST--3--BUT--NOT--MORE--THAN-8 AUTISTIC-INDIVIDUALS
- (B)--THE-GOVERNOR-SHALL-INCLUDE-IN-THE-ANNUAL-BUDGET \$200,000-FOR-THE-OPERATION-OF-4-GROUP-HOMES-FOR-ADULTS-WHOSE PRIMARY-DIAGNOSIS-IS-AUTISM-
- (C)--THE--GROUP-HOMES-FUNDED-UNDER-THIS-SECTION-MAY-NOT BE-OWNED-BY-OR-LEASED-TO-THE-STATE-
- (D)--THE-SECRETARY-SHALL-DEFINE-AUTISM-FOR-PURPOSES--OF THIS-SECTION-
- ANY FUNDS THAT BECOME AVAILABLE TO THIS STATE UNDER THE WAIVER PROVISIONS OF THE OMNIBUS BUDGET RECONCILATION ACT OF 1981 SHALL BE DIRECTED FIRST TOWARD PROGRAMS SERVING INDIVIDUALS IN GROUP HOMES FOR DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE FUNDING FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES UNDER THE FEDERAL HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapters (H.B. 200 and H.B. 1476) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982) read(s) as follows: