

forces in times of war and peace at great personal risk of life and limb; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has decided against proceeding with the funding and construction of a new and urgently needed veterans administration hospital and health care facility adjacent to the University Hospital in Baltimore City, despite a long-standing and continued commitment by the federal government to proceed with the construction of this much-needed facility; and

WHEREAS, The median age of the veteran population in Maryland is steadily on the rise, and this population urgently requires and will require modern hospital and health care facilities -- facilities presently unavailable to veterans in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The services provided by the Fort Howard Veterans' Hospital are very valuable to the community and these services will still be needed even with the establishment of new veterans' health care facilities in Baltimore City; and

WHEREAS, A large proportion of the veteran population of Maryland is without health insurance or is financially unable to bear the increasing costs of hospitalization and modern health care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the President and Congress of the United States are urgently requested to stand by their commitment to the veterans of Maryland and immediately proceed with the funding and construction of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Baltimore City and to support the allocation of the needed resources for the continuation of Fort Howard Veterans' Hospital; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Ronald Reagan, the President of the United States; all members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation; and Mr. John Eaton, Executive Director of the Maryland Veterans' Commission.

Signed May 4, 1982.

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No. 5

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 32)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Enhancement of Maryland's Historically Black