

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

## EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

August 6, 1982

We have been called into this Extraordinary Session because on July 31st, almost 10,000 Maryland Citizens without jobs lost their rights to Extended Benefits. We are here today to correct an oversight that was not anticipated when we enacted H.B. 275 this past Session. Clearly, this General Assembly felt that the current economic recession justified an extension of unemployment benefits.

We are here to resolve a conflict created by a new federal law -- a law that once again reveals the insensitivity of Washington to the plight of people who are caught in the crunch of a national recession.

As state officials, we cannot legislate national economic policy. We can do little to reverse the mounting national deficit. We can do little to improve the highest national unemployment rate in four decades (9.5%).

What we can do, and should do today, is to try to assist the thousands of jobless in Maryland so that they and their families can get through these difficult times. The only way to correct this situation is the enactment of legislation by this General Assembly. So let us get down to business and limit our discussions to the serious problem for which this special session was called.

Read and ordered journalized.

## APPOINTMENTS

August 6, 1982

By the Speaker of the House:

RESOLVED, That the Honorable Donald B. Robertson of Montgomery County be appointed as Majority Floor Leader and the Honorable Raymond E. Beck of Carroll County be appointed as Minority Floor Leader.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chairmen of the Standing Committees within the House of Delegates be:

Appropriations: The Hon. John R. Hargreaves of Middle Shore District

Constitutional & Administrative Law: The Hon. Helen L. Koss of Montgomery County