

WHEREAS, There are numerous employment opportunities available in the areas of data processing, civil engineering, electrical engineering, and other high technology fields; and

WHEREAS, In the future the demand for properly trained individuals who are qualified in these high technology fields may exceed the supply; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that the State of Maryland is ideally suited for the development of high technology industry as evidenced by a recent report from the University of Maryland which indicated that: (1) the Baltimore-Washington corridor has the highest concentration of scientists and engineers of any metropolitan area in the country; and (2) due to the existence of numerous federal laboratories throughout the State, Maryland is second only to California in federal research and developmental expenditures; and

WHEREAS, The 1983 Maryland General Assembly will address a proposal to establish a University of Maryland Engineering Research Center as a formal link between the College of Engineering and high technology firms in the State; and

WHEREAS, Southern Maryland, which consists of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties, currently lacks any academic program of high technology studies to help satisfy the growing demand in Southern Maryland for such courses and to help Maryland develop into a technologically oriented State; and

WHEREAS, Southern Maryland has the facilities to accommodate the development of a technological education program as evidenced by the location of Patuxent River Naval Air Station, St. Mary's College, Charles County Community College, and numerous secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, The University of Maryland has a strong curriculum in the technological fields, a large faculty and is nationally ranked in the high technology-oriented fields and, as a result, could provide unparalleled guidance and assistance in coordinating the development of a technological education program in Southern Maryland in cooperation with the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, St. Mary's College, Charles County Community College, and other secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that assistance would be needed from Maryland's Congressional Delegation to work with the U. S. Department of the Navy in authorizing the use of the Patuxent River Naval Air Station facilities, which are some of the most technologically advanced facilities in the country, for such purposes if deemed appropriate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Legislative Policy Committee is requested to ~~appoint--a--Joint Committee-to-study~~ refer to the appropriate legislative Committee