

WHEREAS, Over 200,000 steelworker jobs have been lost in the United States since 1977; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of steelworker jobs have been lost in Maryland since 1977 and the remaining Maryland jobs in the steel industry continue to be threatened by foreign steel imports; and

WHEREAS, As of December, 1983 almost 100,000 steel industry workers continue to be unemployed; and

WHEREAS, Major steel plant closings continue to occur throughout the nation and in the State - triggered by an unprecedented flood of steel imports; and

WHEREAS, Foreign steel producers have gained approximately 20 percent of steel consumed in the United States largely by unfair trade practices and in violation of United States trade laws and international agreements; and

WHEREAS, Foreign steel producers are assisted and encouraged to engage in unfair trade practices by their home countries; and

WHEREAS, Foreign countries subsidize their steel producers by financial aid, domestic market protection, antitrust exemption, cartel formations and targeted foreign government development assistance; and

WHEREAS, The American steel industry simply cannot compete with such unfair trade practices by foreign nations and foreign steel producers; and

WHEREAS, Congressional action is necessary to assist the American steel industry in providing economic stability, tax revenue, employment, and support to local communities throughout the nation and the State of Maryland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the United States Congress is urged to pass legislation immediately, to limit imports of foreign steel to not more than 15 percent of American steel consumption for a period of not less than 5 years, through enactment of H.R. 4352; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable Ronald W. Reagan, President of the United States, the Honorable John Murtha, U.S. Congressman, Chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, 2423 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. and Paul S. Sarbanes, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Royden P. Dyson, Clarence D. Long, Barbara A. Mikulski, Marjorie S. Holt, Steny H. Hoyer, Beverly B. Byron, Parren J. Mitchell, and Michael D. Barnes, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.