

Transportation, United States Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

Signed May 21, 1985.

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No. 14

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 43)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

The Mount Vernon Conference of 1785

FOR the purpose of commemorating the bicentennial of the Mount Vernon Conference and the resulting Compact of 1785.

WHEREAS, The year 1989 marks the bicentennial of the adoption of the United States Constitution, which established a government of, by, and for the people, under which the State of Maryland and the Nation at large has grown and prospered; and

WHEREAS, The call for a new constitution for the United States began as an effort to better regulate the commerce of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Maryland and Virginia were among the first states to settle jurisdictional disputes arising from conflicts over trade, navigation, and fishing; and

WHEREAS, At the request of the Virginia General Assembly, the Maryland General Assembly in January, 1785, appointed Thomas Johnson, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Thomas Stone, and Samuel Chase to meet with representatives from Virginia to discuss and resolve mutual problems of jurisdiction over navigation and fishing on the Chesapeake Bay, the Potomac River, and the Pocomoke River; and

WHEREAS, This meeting convened at Mount Vernon at the invitation of George Washington on March 28, 1785, and resulted in the Mount Vernon Compact, provisions of which with regard to fishing on the Potomac are still in effect today; and

WHEREAS, The bipartisan success of the Mount Vernon Conference led to the call for a meeting of all the states to assemble in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1786, to discuss matters relating to trade; and

WHEREAS, The Annapolis Convention of September 11-14, 1786, concluded that the whole framework of the national government required immediate attention and issued a call for the Philadelphia Convention that, in 1787, adopted the Constitution of the United States; now, therefore, be it