

No. 17

(House Joint Resolution No. 26)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Building-Materials---Flammability-and-Toxicity-of-Smoke

FOR--the--purpose--of--requesting--the-Governor-to-appoint-a-Task-Force-to-study-the-problems-associated-with-toxic-combustion-products-produced-or-released--when--certain--materials--are-burned-or-subjected-to-high-temperatures,-directing-the-Task-Force--to--study-the-effects-of-these-combustion-products-on-humans,-whether-building-codes-provide--adequate--regulation-of--materials--that--produce--toxic-combustion-products,-and-whether-legislation-is--required--to--address--this-problem-effectively,-providing-for-the-membership-of-the-Task-Force,-and-generally-relating-to-a-study-of-the-problems-associated-with-materials-that-produce-toxic-combustion-products-

WHEREAS,-it--has--long--been--recognized--that--most-deaths-associated-with-fires-are-most-frequently--the--result--of--smoke-inhalation-and-not-the-fire-itself,-and

WHEREAS,-it---has---recently---been---discovered---that---some-materials,-which--are--commonly-used--in--the--constructing--or-furnishing--of--homes,-offices,-and-other-buildings-occupied-by-humans,-when-burned-or-subjected-to--high--temperatures,-release-toxic-gases--such--as--phosgene,-the-highly-effective-poison-gas-used-as-a-weapon-during-World-War-I,-hydrogen-chloride,-and-other-compounds-that-are-frequently-lethal--to--human--beings--even--in-minute-concentrations,-and

WHEREAS,-The--relationship--between--fire--deaths-and-toxic-combustion-products-from-various-types-of-materials-is--only--now-becoming-understood-and-may-require-that-government-reexamine-the-regulation--of--the--uses-of-these-materials-for-constructing-and-furnishing-buildings,-and

WHEREAS,-The-long-term-effects-of--these--toxic--combustion-products--on-the-health-of-those-exposed-to-them,-especially-fire-fighters,-while-not--fully--understood,-gives--cause--for--grave-concern--about-the-well-being-of-these-valued-public-servants-who-protect-our-property-from-catastrophe,-now,-therefore,-be-it

RESOLVED-BY-THE--GENERAL--ASSEMBLY--OF--MARYLAND,-That--the-Governor--is--requested--to--establish--a-Task-Force-to-Study-the-Flammability-and-Toxicity-of-Smoke-from-Building--Materials,-and-be-it-further

RESOLVED,-That-the-Task-Force-be-composed-of-