

(21)--A representative of a major medical institution in this State;

(22)--Two citizens of this State representing the general public; and

(23)--The Chief Medical Examiner of the State or his designee; and it further

RESOLVED, That the Governor designate the Chairman of the Task Force, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall study the problems arising from the use of materials which release toxic combustion products when exposed to heat and fire in construction and furnishing buildings, shall study whether these problems can be addressed adequately under existing building codes and other laws, and if appropriate, shall recommend changes in regulations and legislation it considers necessary, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and Governor by January 1, 1986, and be it further

RESOLVED, That staff for the Task Force be provided by the Governor's Office, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force may not receive compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with State Standard Travel Regulations.

Building Materials - Combustibility, Flammability,
and Fire Gas Toxicity

FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor to appoint a Task Force to study deaths resulting from building fires, the contribution of building materials to building fire deaths, and the factors of combustion, smoke, and toxic combustion products produced when such building materials are burned or subjected to high temperatures; assessing the current state of the art in fire hazard analysis and what research is currently being done by federal government, universities, research institutions, standards organizations, and any other entities, to improve fire safety in Maryland; providing direction for the Task Force; and generally relating to the Task Force and its work.

WHEREAS, It has long been recognized that most deaths associated with fires are the result of inhalation of smoke and/or toxic gases, and not the fire itself, and that most of these deaths occur in homes, and because materials used in the construction of furnishings of homes, offices, or other buildings occupied by humans may produce toxic gases and smoke in various quantities when heated or burned, therefore, an understanding of