

Signed May 21, 1985.

No. 22

(House Joint Resolution No. 42)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Alcohol Abuse by Youth - Gubernatorial Task Force

FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor to establish a task force to develop and implement a plan to reduce alcohol abuse by youth and young adults in the State; and directing the task force to consider certain factors and involve certain State and local government agencies and institutions and other individuals in the development of its plan.

WHEREAS, Driving while under the influence of alcoholic beverages is the factor most frequently attributed to highway fatalities and injuries, particularly among youth and young adults; and

WHEREAS, Drinking is a learned behavior, and it is imperative that Maryland's youth and young adults be taught the dangers of drinking and driving; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to develop a program to educate all of the citizens of Maryland, particularly its youth and young adults, about methods of reducing the number of fatalities and injuries resulting from driving while under the influence of alcoholic beverages; and

WHEREAS, An organizational framework to focus the efforts of State and local communities and agencies, together with families, educational institutions, nutritional service organizations and others involved in programs geared to combat drunk driving among the State's youth could be very effective in reducing needless tragedies experienced on the State's highways, and the immeasurable suffering among citizens of the State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor is requested to establish a task force to develop and implement a comprehensive plan designed to reduce alcohol abuse by youth and young adults in the State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force be strongly encouraged to consider, as components of its recommended plan:

(1) the formation of a school-community advisory council on substance abuse to develop and monitor programs on prevention and treatment of alcohol abuse by young people;