

WHEREAS, The State Ombudsman Program of the Office of Aging received 101 complaints of abuse of elderly people in nursing homes during the period between October 1, 1983 and September 30, 1984; and

WHEREAS, The Adult Protective Services Program of the Department of Human Services received over 800 complaints concerning abuse or neglect of elderly people during 1984; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor is requested to appoint a Task Force to examine the State's current response to the problems of elderly abuse and neglect; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force examine and report on:

(1) The availability of models for the prevention of elderly abuse and neglect and a review of successful programs in other states and the potential for their utilization in Maryland;

(2) The coordination and effectiveness of existing community resources for the detection and treatment of elderly abuse, including reimbursement of emergency medical treatment for suspected victims of elderly abuse, and training programs for professionals who work with the elderly;

(3) The ability of the State to respond to increasing demands for elderly welfare and protective services necessitated by the increase in elderly abuse and neglect;

(4) The effectiveness of Maryland's judicial and legislative efforts to deal with elderly abuse and neglect;

(5) The relationship between the agencies responsible for services for the elderly;

(6) Whether current staffing levels within the unit that provides protective services for the elderly at the local level are adequate;

(7) The manner in which administrative policies affect elderly people who are at risk of abuse or neglect; and

(8) The need for mandatory reporting laws concerning incidents of elderly abuse and neglect; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Task Force shall make recommendations for the implementation of more effective and comprehensive responses to the problems of elderly abuse and neglect in Maryland; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force be composed of 10 members appointed as follows: