

clothe, and maintain the health of themselves and their families, and

WHEREAS, This proposed legislation will provide full and immediate access by depositors in Merritt Savings and Loan, Friendship Savings and Loan and Chesapeake Savings and Loan Associations to the \$500,000,000 in deposits held in these institutions, and

WHEREAS, The enactment of this legislation is an important step towards providing relief to those depositors who are restricted from withdrawing funds from their accounts in these savings and loan associations that still will be subject to restrictions on withdrawals, and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of the General Assembly to preserve the financial integrity of the deposits in savings and loan associations, and to relieve the financial burden on depositors whose deposits are subject to withdrawal restrictions, and, at the same time minimize the impact on the taxpayer of the State's potential liability under the State of Maryland Deposit Insurance Fund Corporation, and

WHEREAS, On October 15, 1985 the Executive Branch made a commitment to develop a plan to assist depositors to obtain access to their frozen deposits in cases of hardship, and

WHEREAS, The Maryland General Assembly agrees that a Depositor's Plan must be developed as soon as possible in order to assist these depositors that are not allowed access to their deposits despite this Act, now, therefore,

WHEREAS, Since May of 1985, due to the savings and loan crisis, thousands of citizens and depositors at savings and loan associations have had to endure prohibitions and limitations on access to their own funds, enormous inconvenience, significant suffering, and tragic hardships; and

WHEREAS, To address the savings and loan crisis and prevent further deterioration of the situation, the First Special Session of the General Assembly in 1985 was called and established the State of Maryland Deposit Insurance Fund Corporation (MDIF) as a successor corporation to the Maryland Savings-Share Insurance Corporation (MSSIC) by merger, provided that the State assume the insurance responsibilities of MSSIC - a private insurance corporation - under the same terms and conditions provided by MSSIC, stated the policy of the State to appropriate funds to protect holders of savings accounts in MDIF-insured associations, required these institutions to obtain federal insurance by certain dates, provided aid to allow these institutions to meet the federal requirements, and undertook other measures; and

WHEREAS, The State remains committed to resolving the problems created by the savings and loan crisis and its inherent