

Hughes, Governor of Maryland, the Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Honorable Melvin A. Steinberg, President of the Senate of Maryland.

Signed May 13, 1986.

No. 22

(House Joint Resolution No. 5)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Task Force to Study the "White Cane Law"

FOR the purpose of requesting that the Governor establish a task force to study the "White Cane Law"; providing that the task force examine the enforcement, administration, or need to revise the "White Cane Law"; providing for the membership and appointment of the task force; and generally relating to a task force to examine the "White Cane Law" that protects the rights of certain blind or visually handicapped individuals.

WHEREAS, It is the policy of this State to encourage and enable the blind or the visually handicapped to participate fully in the social and economic life of the State and to engage in gainful employment; and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of this State that the blind or visually handicapped be employed in the State service, the service of the political subdivisions of the State, in the public schools, and in all other employment supported in whole or in part by public funds on the same terms and conditions as the persons not so handicapped, unless it is shown that the particular handicap prevents the performance of the work involved; and

WHEREAS, The blind or the visually handicapped have the same right as the persons not so handicapped to the full and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings, public facilities, and other public places; and

WHEREAS, The blind or the visually handicapped are entitled to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, streetcars, boats, or other public conveyances or modes of transportation, hotels, lodging places, places of public accommodations, amusement, or resort, or other places to which the general public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable to all persons; and