

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

formulation and implementation of certain programs relating to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and other diseases and conditions afflicting the aged and elderly; requiring certain reports; and requesting a study of the designation of Alzheimer's disease as a psychiatric disorder.

WHEREAS, The Governor's Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders studied the problems associated with these debilitating disorders and issued its final report on July 30, 1985; and

WHEREAS, This study provides a fresh and timely review of the effects of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, along with suggesting legislation and administrative proposals that may alleviate some of the drastic effects of these debilitating disorders; and

WHEREAS, The needs identified in this study are also experienced by victims of other debilitating conditions associated with the aged and elderly, such as victims of stroke or acute physical disability; and

WHEREAS, There are a number of programs that exist and that are now being developed in various departments, and formulation and implementation of these new or expanded services involve different departments and agencies of the State, sometimes individually and sometimes in collaborative activities; and

WHEREAS, It is essential that there be coordination between the Executive and Legislative branches of government, as well as interdepartmental coordination, to assure that viable options and programs are continued, developed, and coordinated; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor is requested to establish a coordinating council to advise the Interagency Committee on Aging Services on existing programs for the aged and elderly and the coordination of the efforts of the various State departments, to monitor the progress that has been made to follow up the recommendations made by the Governor's Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders in its report of June 30, 1985, and to advise the Interagency Committee on Aging Services on necessary services to the victims of Alzheimer's disease and their families, and persons suffering from other diseases and conditions affecting the aged and elderly and their families, including the extent to which the following services are provided and the feasibility of expanding or establishing the following services or programs:

(1) Financial assistance to care givers as provided by Article 70B, § 4E of the Code, with particular attention to the Office on Aging family support programs;