

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

No. 8

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 32)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Chemical Hypersensitivity Syndrome

FOR the purpose of requesting the Department of the Environment to prepare a study concerning chemical hypersensitivity syndrome; specifying certain criteria to be used in preparing the study; and specifying that the Department report the findings and recommendations of the study to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date.

WHEREAS, Chemical hypersensitivity syndrome is purported to be a complex systemic condition and pathological state resulting from a single exposure or repeated sensitization to specific molecules or structurally related chemical compounds; and

WHEREAS, A chemically hypersensitive person experiences might experience severe adverse health effects from exposure to one or more toxic chemicals, and is might be at significantly higher risk than the general population; and

WHEREAS, Chemical hypersensitivity syndrome is might be a serious and often severely disabling and debilitating condition which can might be life threatening to people of all ages and from all segments of society; and

WHEREAS, The physical, emotional, and financial burdens of chemical hypersensitivity are may be extremely high and are--not being might not be met by existing service or assistance programs or adequately covered by health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Current federal, State, and local policies do might not adequately protect the chemically sensitive individual from the harmful effects of unnecessary and unwarranted exposure to toxic chemicals, pollutants, and other environmental agents; and

WHEREAS, Current terminology and nomenclature used to describe this condition is varied and confusing due to the lack of scientific and clinical knowledge; and

WHEREAS, Advances in research, scientific knowledge, and the exchange of information could reveal fundamental data that may lead to prevention, treatment, and ultimately a cure which will might be of great benefit to society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of the Environment carry out a study concerning chemical hypersensitivity syndrome; and be it further