

JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED
by the
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
and the
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Joint Resolution No. 1

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 2)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Participation of Hispanics in the American Revolution

FOR the purpose of acknowledging the participation of Hispanics in the American Revolution; honoring Hispanic contributions to American independence; urging historians to a deeper examination and dissemination of the role of Hispanics in the accomplishment of American independence; and urging that study of these contributions be made an integral part of the social studies and history courses taught in the State of Maryland.

WHEREAS, The independence of the United States was achieved not only from the efforts of American patriots, but also due to the assistance of foreign governments, soldiers, and individuals who supported them; and

WHEREAS, In spite of being an important factor in the victory, the participation of Hispanics in the War of Independence is rarely mentioned in the history textbooks of this nation; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of Hispanics fought the British and their allies during the American Revolution in what today is the United States, winning crucial battles that eased the pressure of the Crown's forces against the armies of General George Washington; and

WHEREAS, Spanish Louisiana Governors Don Luis de Unzaga and Don Bernardo de Galvez provided assistance to the revolutionary governments of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia in the form of arms, war materiel, and funds to wage campaigns and protect themselves against the British; and

WHEREAS, This assistance allowed American General George Rogers Clark to wage his successful campaigns west of those colonies and also was instrumental in preventing the British from capturing Fort Pitt in Pennsylvania and Fort Henry in Virginia, which guarded the last leg of the only remaining major patriot supply route at the time, that which originated in Spanish New Orleans, traversed the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and ended overland in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Don Juan de Miralles, a wealthy Spanish merchant established in Havana, Cuba, was appointed as the Royal Envoy of King Carlos III of Spain to the United States in 1778, and while travelling with his secretary, Don Francisco Rendon, to the revolutionary capital of Philadelphia, he initiated the direct shipment of supplies from