

no other provision in this amendment, the effective date of this amendment is to be immediate upon approval by the General Assembly of this Joint Resolution; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That, effective immediately upon approval of this Joint Resolution, the General Assembly hereby approves the 1997 Addendum as an amendment to the Patuxent River Policy Plan; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Honorable Harriet Tregoning, Secretary of the Department of Planning; and the Honorable Mary C. Lorsung, Chair of the Patuxent River Commission.

Signed May 18, 2001.

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**Joint Resolution No. 11**

**(House Joint Resolution No. 12)**

A House Joint Resolution concerning

**Federal Funding for a Hepatitis A and B Vaccination Program**

**FOR** the purpose of urging the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to seek federal funds to offset the cost to the State of providing vaccines for hepatitis A and B; urging the Secretary to apply for federal funds to offset the cost of administering a vaccination program for hepatitis A and B; requiring the Secretary to make a certain report under certain conditions; and generally relating to seeking federal funds for a hepatitis A and B vaccination program.

**WHEREAS**, Hepatitis B is a silent killer which is largely asymptomatic until irreversible liver damage occurs; and

**WHEREAS**, Hepatitis B virus is a serious disease that can cause a lifelong infection, cirrhosis (scarring) of the liver, liver cancer, liver failure, and death; and

**WHEREAS**, The federal Centers for Disease Control estimate that 1 out of every 20 individuals will become infected with hepatitis B during their lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, Hepatitis A is a food-borne and water-borne disease that accounts for one-third to one-half of all hepatitis cases in this country and in rare cases can be fatal; and

**WHEREAS**, Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus that can affect anyone; and