

Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Signed May 21, 1998.

Joint Resolution No. 5

(House Joint Resolution No. 12)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Maryland Higher Education - Maryland Charter for Higher Education Governance, Coordination, and Funding of the University System of Maryland

FOR the purpose of establishing a task force to study the governance, coordination, and funding of the University System of Maryland; providing for the membership of the task force; providing for certain notice procedures for meetings of the task force; providing for a certain report; and generally relating to a task force to study the governance, coordination, and funding of the University System of Maryland.

WHEREAS, Nearly 10 years have passed since the General Assembly and Governor created the Maryland Charter for Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, A major State recession in the early 1990's dramatically affected funding for higher education and only now, despite the strong efforts of the Governor and General Assembly for four years, is public higher education funding back to its pre-recession level and a more stable funding source is necessary to meet the goals of the Charter; and

WHEREAS, The duties and potential overlap of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, and the presidents of the constituent institutions of the University System, deserve review in light of the experience gained since 1988 and the State's continuing interest in a public higher education system with the accountability necessary to achieve a highly skilled and productive workforce; and

WHEREAS, An examination of the State's funding priorities to broaden and sustain the national reputation of public higher education in Maryland, including its flagship university, historically Black institutions, research institutions, and the comprehensive institutions, should be undertaken; and

~~WHEREAS, In order to meet the changing role of higher education for Maryland citizens, it is necessary to review the State's fiscal and licensure policies towards emerging electronic education, distance education, and other nontraditional delivery mechanisms of instruction and training in both credit and noncredit, profit and nonprofit, public and private colleges and universities; and~~