

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

Unofficial Copy  
J1

1997 Regular Session  
(71r2731)

*ENROLLED RESOLUTION*  
*-- Environmental Matters/Finance --*

Introduced by **Delegates Hubbard, Billings, Owings, Oaks, Frush, Morhaim, McHale, Mohorovic, D. Davis, Hammen, Nathan-Pulliam, Watson, Klausmeier, Stup, Elliott, Stull, D. Hughes, Redmer, Krysiak, Weir, and Guns**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Flexibility in the Provision of Long-Term Care**

3 FOR the purpose of expressing the intent of the General Assembly of Maryland  
4 regarding the provision of long-term care in the State; and directing the Health  
5 Care Financing Administration to be less restrictive in imposing conditions on the  
6 receipt of federal funds for the provision of long-term care in the State and to allow  
7 the State greater flexibility in deciding how to best utilize the funds available for the  
8 provision of long-term care.

9 WHEREAS, Long-term care is utilized by persons over 65 years old, persons with  
10 functional disabilities under 65 years old, persons with developmental disabilities, and  
11 persons with mental illness in this State; and

12 WHEREAS, Demographic trends indicate that expenditures for long-term care will  
13 continue to grow and populations in need of long term care will continue to require  
14 long-term care; and

15 WHEREAS, The individual needs of a person in need of long-term care differ  
16 depending on the nature of the person's disability; and

1 WHEREAS, The purpose of long-term care is to provide assistance in allowing the  
2 individual to function at maximum ability, which may include habilitative services,  
3 rehabilitation, and maintenance of function at optimum levels possible as health status  
4 changes; and

5 ~~WHEREAS, Long-term care recipients often are best served in home- and~~  
6 ~~community-based settings instead of institutional settings; and~~

7 WHEREAS, While institutional long-term care may be appropriate under some  
8 circumstances, long-term care recipients often are best served in home-, community-, and  
9 assisted living-based settings; and

10 WHEREAS, Persons in need of long-term care desire accessible ~~home- and~~  
11 ~~community-based~~ home-, community-, and assisted living-based services to assist them in  
12 preserving their independence and preventing institutionalization; and

13 WHEREAS, Those services should include financial assistance for capital  
14 improvements to the homes of persons in need of long-term care, if the improvements  
15 would enable them to remain in the community; and

16 WHEREAS, Persons in need of long-term care have an overwhelming interest in  
17 the amount of choice and control they will have in their personal care services and should  
18 be accommodated in their desire for "independent living"; and

19 WHEREAS, Persons in need of long-term care should be able to choose accessible  
20 and affordable ~~home- or community-based~~ home-, community-, or assisted living-based  
21 long-term care as an option to institutional long-term care; and

22 WHEREAS, Maryland wants the ability to create a higher standard of financial  
23 eligibility for community-based long-term care under the Medical Assistance Program,  
24 thereby helping people remain in the community and avoiding the high costs of  
25 institutionalized care; and

26 WHEREAS, Maryland has a rich array of programs and services available to meet  
27 the needs of those persons who require long-term care in the State; now, therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
29 United States Health Care Financing Administration should be less restrictive in the  
30 conditions it sets on the receipt of federal funds by the State and should allow the State  
31 greater flexibility in deciding how to best utilize the federal funds it receives for the  
32 provision of long-term care; and be it further

33 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
34 Legislative Reference to Bruce Vladek, Administrator, HCFA, 200 Independence  
35 Avenue, S.W., Room 314G-HHH, Washington, D.C., 20201; and be it further

36 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
37 Legislative Reference to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the  
38 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the  
39 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

