

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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**By: Senators Kelley, Jimeno, McFadden, Trotter, Currie, Hughes, Blount, Conway,
Young, Della, Sfikas, Hoffman, and Lawlah**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 Higher Education - Coppin State College - Maryland Center for Thinking Studies

3 FOR the purpose of recognizing the Maryland Center for Thinking Studies at Coppin
4 State College as a key repository for materials, data, and information related to the
5 teaching, learning, and assessment of cognitive skills, and as a model for programs
6 designed to improve cognitive skills.

7 WHEREAS, The National Board Commission on Pre-College Education in
8 Mathematics, Science, and Technology states that "Development of students' capacities
9 for problem solving and critical thinking in all areas of learning is presented as a
10 fundamental goal" in educating Americans for the 21st Century; and

11 WHEREAS, The Maryland Center for Thinking Studies (MCTS) offers programs
12 and resources to students, teachers, and other educational personnel in Maryland who
13 are interested in improving student thinking skills; and

14 WHEREAS, The Center provides Maryland's educators with instructional
15 strategies, models, curricular materials, and other resources for helping students improve
16 their application of thinking skills in the classroom; and

17 WHEREAS, The Center has trained more than 2,500 educators across the state in
18 developing methods to improve students' cognitive skills; and

19 WHEREAS, The Center offers a living laboratory where teachers and students
20 are able to experiment with classroom learning strategies and observe effective teaching
21 practices for the enhancement of cognitive skills; and

22 WHEREAS, The Center provides educators with models and designs for the
23 assessment of student progress in the application of cognitive skills; and

24 WHEREAS, The Center's "Saturday Thinking Improvement Program" has
25 benefitted several thousand students, primarily from inner city neighborhoods, in grades
26 four through nine, by helping them to improve their abilities to understand and apply
27 both critical and creative thinking skills and strategies; a process which has enabled the
28 students to perform better in the classroom, on standardized tests, and in many other
29 areas of their lives; and

30 WHEREAS, The Center's "K-12 Satellite Program" provides on-site student and
31 staff training centers throughout the State; and

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1 WHEREAS, The Center offers specific guidelines and strategies to parents for
2 enhancing students' thinking skills through a "Teaching Thinking At Home Program";
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The Center provides opportunities for educators across the
5 educational spectrum to enhance their skills in cognitive instruction through the
6 "Fellows" and "Professional Staff Development" programs; and

7 WHEREAS, The Center serves as a catalyst for ongoing cognitive improvement
8 initiatives in Maryland's schools; and

9 WHEREAS, The Center has made significant contributions to improving the lives
10 of so many of Maryland's teachers and has benefitted so many of Maryland's students by
11 enabling them to be able to think better both critically and creatively, to perform better
12 both inside and outside of the classroom, and to make decisions and solve problems more
13 effectively; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
15 General Assembly of Maryland hereby recognizes the Maryland Center for Thinking
16 Studies as a key repository for materials, data, and information related to the teaching,
17 learning, and assessment of cognitive skills, and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly recognizes the Maryland Center for
19 Thinking Studies as a model to improve cognitive skills; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
21 Legislative Reference to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the
22 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
23 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; Dr. Nancy S.
24 Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools; and Dr. Patricia S. Florestano, Secretary of
25 Higher Education.