

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

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C8

1999 Regular Session
(9r1917)

ENROLLED RESOLUTION
-- Finance/Economic Matters --

Introduced by **Senator Hollinger and Baltimore City Senators, Baltimore County Senators, and Anne Arundel County Senators**

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.

President.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Support for the Maersk/Sea-Land Proposal Serving the Port of Baltimore**

3 FOR the purpose of expressing the General Assembly's support for the Maryland Port
4 Administration, and its participation in the Maersk/Sea-Land proposal which
5 will aggressively grow the Port and enhance Maryland's economic vitality.

6 WHEREAS, The Port of Baltimore impacts the daily lives of hundreds of
7 thousands of citizens in Maryland and beyond; and

8 WHEREAS, The shipping industry is a major contributor to the economic health
9 of the State of Maryland and the nation, generating substantially in excess of \$1.3
10 billion each year to Maryland's economy; employing 45,000 Marylanders, including
11 18,000 directly in port jobs; contributing \$141 million in State and local taxes
12 annually, and \$400 million in United States Customs receipts; and

13 WHEREAS, With the maritime industry undergoing revolutionary operational
14 changes, the port industry has become extremely competitive, with all ports striving
15 to attract and retain shipping lines, cargo shippers, and other opportunities related to
16 the movement of cargo; and

1 WHEREAS, Since 1683, maritime activities on the Patapsco River have been
2 the source of economic benefits for this region and led directly to the founding of
3 Baltimore Town, a major economic engine of the State of Maryland, for nearly three
4 centuries; and

5 WHEREAS, Today a wide variety of Maryland industries depend on the Port
6 and its continued success to move cargo safely and efficiently through its terminals;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Port of Baltimore is under consideration as the United States
9 Northeast load center for the global containership partnership of Maersk Inc. and
10 Sea-Land Services, Inc., two ocean carriers which operate jointly through a vessel
11 sharing agreement; and

12 WHEREAS, Maersk and Sea-Land, which compose the largest container
13 operator in the United States, have indicated they would handle volumes reaching as
14 many as 550,000 containers annually, with some 10 ship calls weekly at their
15 Northeast load center; and

16 WHEREAS, The Port of Baltimore has excellent cargo facilities for
17 containerized cargo, *cargo and* a 50 foot ~~channel, *channel*~~; and ~~a long-term strategic~~
18 ~~dredging plan that assures Maersk/Sea-Land that the port can accommodate~~
19 ~~deep-draft ships~~

20 WHEREAS, A long-term strategic dredging plan has been proposed that would
21 assure Maersk/Sea-Land that the port can accommodate deep-draft ships; and

22 WHEREAS, The Port of Baltimore is situated in the fourth largest consumer
23 market in the nation and is well positioned to accommodate large volumes of cargo
24 locally and to the Midwest, Philadelphia, Washington, and New York markets; and

25 WHEREAS, Baltimore offers excellent intermodal, highway, and rail
26 connections, including the benefits of two Class I railroads, CSX and Norfolk
27 Southern, that can offer a greater range of service to more locations; and

28 WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has made substantial investments in the
29 Port of Baltimore by maintaining its shipping channels and developing
30 state-of-the-art facilities; and

31 WHEREAS, The Port of Baltimore, labor organizations, the Maryland Bay
32 Pilots, and the Port Community have all worked together to bring Maersk/Sea-Land
33 to the Port of Baltimore; now, therefore, be it

34 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
35 General Assembly supports the Port of Baltimore's initiative to grow cargo by
36 aggressively participating in the effort to secure Maersk/Sea-Land business; and be it
37 further

38 RESOLVED, That to the extent possible, sufficient funding be allocated to the
39 Port of Baltimore in order to make the necessary physical improvements to

1 accommodate the substantial increase in business generated by Maersk/Sea-Land;
2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That Governor Parris Glendening and the Maryland Department
4 of Transportation, the Port of Baltimore, and the Department of Business and
5 Economic Development have the full support of the General Assembly in their
6 negotiations with Maersk/Sea-Land in order to grow the Port of Baltimore and
7 Maryland's economic vitality; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
9 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
10 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
11 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; *and be it*
12 *further*

13 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
14 Legislative Services to the chief corporate officers of ~~the~~ Maersk, Inc. ~~and~~, Sea-Land
15 Service, ~~the~~ Inc., the CSX Railroad, and the Norfolk Southern Railroad.