

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 28

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2002 Regular Session
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By: **Delegate Hecht**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Sheppard Pratt Hospital - Facility Replacement Project**

3 FOR the purpose of expressing support for Sheppard Pratt Hospital in its efforts to
4 secure an appropriation from the United States Congress for its hospital.

5 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt Hospital, located in Towson, Maryland, is a
6 nationally renowned mental health institution, consistently rated as one of America's
7 top psychiatric facilities in a respected national survey; and

8 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt was founded as part of the 19th century reform
9 movement that advocated for humane treatment of the mentally ill and has
10 consistently been recognized as a national beacon in the evolution of psychiatry in the
11 United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt operates as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization with
13 any bottom line gain reinvested in the organization; and

14 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt is a statewide resource that admits about 5,000
15 inpatients annually, representing 14% of all nonstate system psychiatric
16 hospitalizations in Maryland; and

17 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt provides specialized inpatient services not readily
18 available elsewhere in the community, including trauma disorders treatment,
19 geriatric services, treatment resistant psychotic disorders including schizophrenia,
20 child and adolescent services, and dual diagnosis treatment for chemical dependency
21 and mental illness; and

22 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt is a teaching hospital, with a psychiatric residency
23 training program; placements for child psychiatrists and psychologists during their
24 fellowships; field placements for nurses, social workers, and occupational therapists
25 during their training; and a professional Grand Rounds educational series for
26 community professionals; and

27 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt serves people of all socioeconomic groups with
28 two-thirds of its patients being publicly funded by Medicare and Medicaid; and

1 WHEREAS, Sheppard Pratt has operated in its original hospital buildings since
2 their completion in 1891 and after 110-plus years acknowledges the need for the
3 community's most prestigious psychiatric institution to care for patients in a state of
4 the art facility designed for the 21st century; and

5 WHEREAS, In recognition of its contributions locally and nationally, Sheppard
6 Pratt is seeking federal support for a facility replacement project; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
8 General Assembly supports Sheppard Pratt Hospital in its efforts to secure a
9 designated congressional appropriation for its hospital and encourages that body to
10 respond favorably to Sheppard Pratt's request for funding support; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
12 Legislative Services to the Congress of the United States; the Honorable Parris N.
13 Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.,
14 President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.,
15 Speaker of the House of Delegates.