

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

J1, P5

1lr1107

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Cox**

Requested: October 26, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Resolution to End the State of Emergency**

3 FOR the purpose of terminating the Governor's state of emergency and declaring the intent
4 of the General Assembly to order the Governor to cease issuing renewals of the state
5 of emergency.

6 WHEREAS, Since March 5, 2020, Maryland has been placed under a declared state
7 of emergency by the Governor for a pandemic for which science demonstrates, as stated by
8 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on September 10, 2020, there is a
9 99.98% average chance of survival for individuals age 0–19, a 99.8% chance of survival for
10 individuals age 20–49, a 99.5% chance of survival for individuals age 50–69, and a 94.6%
11 chance of survival for individuals age 70 and older; and

12 WHEREAS, More people have died or been harmed by the state of emergency than
13 by the pandemic, including through the unlawful closure of churches, businesses, and
14 schools, causing a growing crisis in mental health, overdoses, and suicide, according to the
15 CDC's reports dated August 14, 2020, and October 8, 2020; and

16 WHEREAS, Under § 14–107 of the Public Safety Article, a declaration of a state of
17 emergency may last only 30 days unless renewed by the Governor, and the General
18 Assembly never intended to authorize the Governor to continually renew a state of
19 emergency declaration in the manner that the Governor has this year; and

20 WHEREAS, To protect the lives and livelihoods of Maryland citizens, the state of
21 emergency must be terminated; now, therefore, be it

22 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That, in accordance
23 with § 14–107 of the Public Safety Article, the Governor's state of emergency which began
24 on March 5, 2020, and has continued through many and varied orders to this date, is hereby
25 terminated; and be it further



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1 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with § 14–107 of the Public Safety Article, it is the
2 intent of the General Assembly to order the Governor to cease issuing renewals of the state
3 of emergency; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
5 Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the
6 Honorable William C. Ferguson, IV, President of the Senate of Maryland; and the
7 Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the House of Delegates.