

of the ramifications on minority business interests and that adequate safeguards are made for a smooth transition during the adjusting period.

It is necessary that a "Task Force" type organization be established to provide input to the Maryland Energy Policy Office. The primary objective of this operation will be to support the Energy Policy Office in their total program with specific orientation toward the understanding of the problem of minority businesses.

It is envisioned that this organization would provide factual statistical input and social and emotional analysis to the EPO regarding the plight of this class of business and its relationship to proposed or contemplated regulations and legislation.

It is also necessary that this group would develop specific recommendations for developments in the energy efficiency and conservation areas that would improve the contribution of minority business. This group would further be used to develop means of education to promote understanding of the energy situation that exists and acceptance of decisions that must be made; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Energy Policy Office in cooperation with the Minority Business Energy Task Force be requested to submit a report to the Senate Economic [[Matters]] Affairs and the House Environmental Matters Committees no later than December 31, 1975, concerning an Energy Minority Business Study. Proposed action items for a Minority Business Study shall include:

- (1) Unfair allocations of resources based upon prior years. How can newly established minority business comply?
- (2) Cash flow problem inflicted by price increases initiated by such actions as conservation tax on fuel. Are fuel stamps appropriate?
- (3) Cash flow problems caused by mandatory conservation requirements; i.e., insulation, storm windows and doors, etc. Are low-interest loans required to assist minority business in complying with FEA/EPO energy conservation regulations?
- (4) Impact of mandatory minimum performance standards for appliances on small