

(House Joint Resolution 63)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Nursing Homes and Medicaid Supplements - Payments

FOR the purpose of requesting the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to study the problem of Medicaid payments for nursing home care.

WHEREAS, Federal Medicaid regulations prohibit paying of a supplemental fee to nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, Many nursing homes will not accept patients at Medicaid rates and therefore reject all Medicaid patients; and

WHEREAS, In many instances relatives can afford to pay part, but not all, of the fees for care of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, To allow the payments creates a danger that some nursing homes may scale their rates up pressing families of patients for supplemental fees when they cannot afford it; and

WHEREAS, After July 1, 1975, the Hospital Cost Review Commission will set rates for nursing home care placing a fair ceiling on the cost of care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene be requested to study this problem to see if some means can be devised for allowing the payments without subjecting other patients to pressures for supplemental payments from nursing homes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the recommendation be forwarded to the Committee on Intergovernmental Cooperation to seek acceptance for it from federal authorities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That in any event no recommendation shall require that more than 50% of the Medicaid patients in a nursing home at any one time may be making supplemental payments; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to Dr. Neil Solomon, Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore,