

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, Many of the children transferred from Rosewood to Highland have shown remarkable improvement while at Highland in their physical abilities, intellectual capacities and emotional development; and

~~WHEREAS, Over the past few years Rosewood Center has been the subject of many similar complaints and investigations into conditions existing at the facility; and~~

WHEREAS, The transfer of children from Highland to Rosewood would be detrimental to the health, progress, and development of the children; and

WHEREAS, Such a transfer would necessitate the bussing of many of the children daily from Rosewood to the Baer School, the school they presently attend near the Highland Health Center; and

WHEREAS, It has not been shown by the mental retardation administration or any other body that the facilities at Rosewood Center are adequate or that they meet the standards existing at the Highland Health Center, or that the proposed transfer will not be detrimental to the children; and

WHEREAS, The certification and review committee of the Health Systems Agency, Inc., a voluntary nonprofit health planning and resources development corporation serving six counties and Baltimore City, has voted overwhelmingly against the proposal to close the Highland Center and transfer the children to Rosewood; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland has on numerous occasions, both through legislation and resolution, indicated its commitment to protecting the rights of mentally retarded persons, and to ensuring that institutionalized persons receive the best treatment, care, and rehabilitation efforts possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is requested to continue operating the Highland Health Facility as a residential center for the treatment, care, and rehabilitation of mentally retarded children, and that the Department is requested not to transfer any of the Highland residents to Rosewood; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable Marvin Mandel, Governor of the State of Maryland; the Honorable Steny Hamilton Hoyer, President of the Senate of Maryland; the Honorable John Hanson Briscoe, Speaker of the House; Dr. Neil Solomon,