

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING  
20 SETTING A MORATORIUM ON IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED  
30 STATES

- 40 WHEREAS: Currently, more than 4.5 million people are already on a waiting list to  
50 immigrate to the United States and many millions more have the necessary  
60 family ties to apply; and,
- 70 WHEREAS: With immigration at its present level (between 700,000 and 900,000 new people  
80 each year), our nation will be unable to stabilize its overall population, and the  
90 damage we do to our environment will be multiplied by more and more people  
100 every year; and,
- 110 WHEREAS: If present immigration laws are not changed, the population of the United States  
120 will reach 392 million by the year 2050; and,
- 130 WHEREAS: The cost of immigration to our society is enormous, since the most recent  
140 estimate puts the costs of post-1969 immigrants at \$65 billion in 1996  
150 alone (\$40.5 billion from legal immigrants and \$24.5 billion from illegal  
160 immigrants) of which this is the net cost; that is, after immigrants' contribution  
170 in taxes is counted; and,
- 180 WHEREAS: If we do not change our immigration policy, by 2006 the annual net cost of  
190 immigration will be \$108 billion, 66 percent higher than the cost in 1996 and  
200 the net national cumulative costs for the decade 1997-2006 for all post-1969  
210 immigrants will be \$866 billion, an average of almost \$87 billion a year; and,
- 220 WHEREAS: Stopping most forms of immigration temporarily would allow us time to devise  
230 an immigration policy that meets our needs, not just the desires of recent and  
240 would-be immigrants and it would also allow the United States to concentrate on  
250 stopping the massive illegal immigrant problem and regaining control of our  
260 borders; and,
- 270 WHEREAS: Since 1970, some 30 million immigrants, legal and illegal, have settled in the  
280 United States and a temporary respite from continued high levels of immigration  
290 would facilitate the assimilation of these newcomers into the economic and  
300 social mainstream and would allow the United States to alleviate some of the  
310 intense pressure that has been placed on vital social institutions; and,
- 320 WHEREAS: One Zogby poll has found that 72 percent of the people want immigration  
330 reduced, and a Rasmussen poll in July 2000 found that 89 percent wanted  
340 English to be America's official language; and,
- 350 WHEREAS: In the year up to September 30, 1996, the Immigration and Naturalization  
360 Service swore in 1,045,000 immigrants as new citizens so quickly that 80,000  
370 with criminal records – 6,300 for serious crimes – slipped by; and,
- 380 WHEREAS: A third of the legal immigrants who come to the United States have not finished  
390 high school; some 22 percent do not even have a ninth-grade education,  
400 compared to less than 5 percent of our native born; and,
- 410 WHEREAS: Over 36 percent of all immigrants, and 57 percent of those from Central  
420 America, do not earn twenty thousand dollars a year; of the immigrants who  
430 have come since 1980, 60 percent still do not earn twenty thousand dollars a

440 year; and,

450 WHEREAS: Immigrant use of food stamps, Supplemental Social Security, and school lunch  
460 programs run from 50 percent to 100 percent higher than use by native  
470 born citizens; and,

480 WHEREAS: The Department of Labor estimated that 50 percent of the real-wage losses  
490 sustained by low-income Americans are due to immigration.

500 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the United  
510 States to create a temporary partial moratorium on immigration into the country;  
520 and,

530 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That almost all immigration be halted during the period from  
540 January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2007, unless authorized by a  
550 congressional committee; and,

560 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This committee would only admit political, ethnic or religious  
570 refugees who face imminent death, torture or imprisonment in their native  
580 countries; and,

590 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the amount of immigrants admitted would not exceed  
600 50,000 people per year; and,

610 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature also urges Congress,  
620 during this period, to study the effects of our current immigration policy; and,

630 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature also urges Congress to  
640 amend the existing immigration laws to limit immigration permanently  
650 beginning on January 1, 2008.

660 MANDATES: President George W. Bush  
670 Vice President Dick Cheney  
680 House Speaker Dennis Hastert  
690 Incoming House Majority Leader  
700 Incoming House Minority Leader  
710 Incoming Senate Majority Leader  
720 Incoming Senate Minority Leader  
730 Representative Sue Kelly

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