

R025-0506

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING**
20 **THE REPEAL OF THE FAIR SHARE HEALTH CARE ACT (WAL-MART BILL)**

30 **WHEREAS:** SB 790/HB 1284 requires that companies that have over 10,000 employees pay
40 8% of their payroll on health benefits or pay into a fund for the uninsured; and,

50 **WHEREAS:** Wal-Mart was singled out and is the only company that would be affected; and,

60 **WHEREAS:** Maryland is the first state in the nation to pass such legislation, which in essence
70 has government telling private businesses what to do; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** This drives businesses along with jobs out of the state of Maryland and
90 discourages new ones from coming in; and,

100 **WHEREAS:** Wal-Mart is now reconsidering building a new distribution center that would
110 potentially employ 1,000 people in Somerset County; and,

120 **WHEREAS:** The supporters of this legislation include Giant Food, the union that represents
130 Giant workers, and other anti Wal-Mart groups supported by labor unions using
140 the government to stifle their competition; and,

150 **WHEREAS:** Some supporters of this legislation say that Wal-Mart employees are using
160 Government services such as Medicaid in higher numbers and that is why they
170 should be paying for these health benefits; but that is simply not the case, only
180 5% of it's employees are on Medicaid, which is normal for a retail business of
190 that size and compared to the national average which is 4%; and,

200 **WHEREAS:** This legislation will also hurt consumers in general, since Wal-Mart will be
210 forced to raise their prices; and,

220 **WHEREAS:** Governor Ehrlich recognized the detrimental effects of this legislation, called it
230 a "bad piece of public policy", and vetoed it;

240 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland
250 General Assembly to repeal the Fair Share Health Care Fund Act.

260 **MANDATES:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
270 Senate President Thomas V. "Mike" Miller
280 Senate Minority Leader J. Lowell Stoltzfus
290 House Speaker Michael E. Busch
300 House Minority Leader George C. Edwards

Sponsor:
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