R024-0607

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING FREEDOM ON THE ROAD

WHEREAS: The Eastern Shore is a well known tourist destination that is visited by peoples from around the world and is visited by millions of people over the course of a year; and,

WHEREAS: Without a major airport located on the Eastern Shore, most visitors are required to drive to various vacation locations on the Eastern Shore. The most common of which being Ocean City, located in Worcester County, the southernmost county on the Eastern Shore; and,

WHEREAS: Most speed limits on major thoroughfares on the "Western Shore" are placed at 65 miles per hour. Contrarily, speed limits on Route 50, which runs the length of the Lower Shore and is extensively traveled, are placed only at 55 miles per hour; and,

WHEREAS: Many unsuspecting travelers do not realize the shift in acceptable behavior and continue to travel at speeds exceeding the regulated limits. Consequently, many people who do not reside on the Eastern Shore are subsequently fined and disciplined for behavior that would be acceptable many other places in Maryland; and,

WHEREAS: Police officers are modern heroes, and we must do our best to protect them. However, the speed checkpoints which are common practice and many police officers conduct on Route 50 can be dangerous both to a speeding driver, and the police officer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General Assembly to raise the speed limit on Maryland Route 50 to 60 miles per hour, except through communities along the highway; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General Assembly to order the removal of signs that say "Bay Bridge Bound? 50 is Swiftest."

MANDATES: Governor Martin O'Malley
Senate President Thomas V. "Mike" Miller
Speaker of the House Michael Busch
Senate Minority Leader David Brinkley
House Minority Leader Anthony J. O'Donnell

SPONSOR:

Dustin W. Mills
Delegation Chair Person, Salisbury University