

10     **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ABOLISHMENT OF CAPITAL**  
20     **PUNISHMENT IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND**

30     **WHEREAS:** There has been a moratorium on all executions in the state of Maryland  
40             since 2006 due to flaws with the execution manual; and,

50     **WHEREAS:** The eighth amendment to the United States bans all forms of cruel and  
60             unusual punishment; and,

70     **WHEREAS:** Lethal injection, the form of capital used in Maryland, often causes the  
80             victims immense amounts of pain and suffering due to need to find  
90             suitable veins and incorrect application of the three drug cocktail; and,

100    **WHEREAS:** An editorial in the New York Herald Tribune referred to executions as “a  
110            premeditated, unnecessary killing is a moral evil by whomever  
120            done”; and,

130    **WHEREAS:** Had it not been for the fervent actions of outside sources, 129 wrongfully  
140            convicted inmates could have been murdered in the United States, losing  
150            their lives for a crime they did not commit; and,

160    **WHEREAS:** Executions are an irreversible punishment; and,

170    **WHEREAS:** Death penalty cases on average cost \$1,000,000 more than murder trials  
180            not involving the potential for capital punishment; and,

190    **WHEREAS:** Capital punishment does nothing to deter criminals from murdering; and,

200    **WHEREAS:** Society can be amply protected from dangerous criminals if convicted  
210            murderers are sentenced to life imprisonment and,

220    **WHEREAS:** Life without parole convictions save the state millions of dollars per  
230            inmate due to the expensive appeals process, and;

240    **WHEREAS:** The life without parole conviction can help the victim’s family begin to  
250            finish the grieving process and allow them to move along with their lives.

260    **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Maryland Student Legislature urges the  
270            Maryland General Assembly to become the thirteenth state in the nation to  
280            abolish capital punishment; and,

290 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the  
300 Maryland General Assembly to commute all death sentences to sentences  
310 of life in prison.

320 **MANDATES:** Governor Martin O'Malley  
330 Thomas V. Mike Miller, President of the Senate  
340 Edward J. Kasemayer, Senate Majority Leader  
350 Kumar P. Barve, House Majority Leader

**SPONSORS:**

Matt Emery, Speaker of the Assembly, McDaniel College  
Sarah Martin, McDaniel College  
Claire Turpel, McDaniel College