

**A Resolution Concerning
MARYLAND PRISON REFORM**

WHEREAS: According to the National Correctional Industries Association, Maryland ranks ninth in the sales of prisoner-made merchandise; and,

WHEREAS: Maryland Correctional Enterprises has been lauded as "Maryland's premier rehabilitation program" and endeavors to be financially successful; and,

WHEREAS: In fiscal year 2008, Maryland Correctional Enterprises recorded sales of approximately \$51.5 million; and,

WHEREAS: Revenues generated by such a fund ought to be used to further prisoner rehabilitation; and,

WHEREAS: Current profits from this program are typically distributed into the state's general fund after some monies are allocated to expanding the program; and,

WHEREAS: Due to the high per-prisoner cost of correctional facilities in Maryland it is appropriate to address prison reform; and,

WHEREAS: Funding for secondary and post-secondary education for prisoners is extremely limited.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass and Governor Martin O'Malley to sign legislation funding a study to report on the best way to use surpluses from Maryland Correctional Enterprises to further prisoner rehabilitation with a particular aim on the usefulness of funding secondary education for inmates with such monies.

SPONSOR:
Mark B. Berge,
UMBC