

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-103 requires the Governor to designate the agency responsible for the implementation of the State system; and

WHEREAS, Governor Marvin Mandel directed the Maryland State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, with the assistance of a special task force, to develop a State plan for the creation of the State protection and advocacy system, including the recommendation of an agency responsible for the implementation of the system; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Council has submitted to me a State plan for the creation of the State system which includes a recommendation that the Governor designate a private, non-profit corporation as the official agency responsible for the implementation of the State system; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled is a private, non-profit corporation which is incorporated under Maryland law for the purpose of the protection and advocacy of the rights of developmentally disabled persons in Maryland and which meets the requirements of Public Law 94-103 for an implementing agency;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BLAIR LEE III, ACTING GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 6(B) AND 24 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, BY ARTICLE 41, SECTION 15C, AND BY PUBLIC LAW 94-103, HEREBY ISSUE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1977:

1. (a) The Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled, a private, non-profit corporation incorporated under Maryland law, is designated as the official agency, for purposes of Public Law 94-103, responsible for the implementation of the State system for the protection and advocacy of the rights of the developmentally disabled.

(b) The Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled shall perform the functions, duties, and responsibilities authorized to be performed or specifically delegated to it by the "State of Maryland Plan for a System to Protect the Individual Rights of and to Advocate for Persons with Developmental Disabilities under Public Law 94-103."

2. The designation of the Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled as