

pertaining to commerce, agriculture, mining, forestry, transportation, travel, tourism, and recreation, and to promote and encourage the location of new industries and businesses in the State . . . and . . . the retention and expansion of present enterprises . . . and to foster and develop gainful employment . . ." for residents of the State. In 1970, the Department became a division in the newly-created Department of Economic and Community Development and adopted its present name by Chapter 527, Acts of 1970.

The Economic Development Advisory Commission consists of twelve members appointed by the Secretary of Economic and Community Development with the approval of the Governor. Members serve for six year terms and may be reappointed. Two represent the Eastern Shore; two, Central Maryland; two, Southern Maryland; two, Western Maryland; two, Baltimore City; and two, the State at large. Members serve without compensation and may be reappointed. The chairman is chosen by the Governor and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of Economic and Community Development. The Secretary, with the approval of the Governor, appoints the Director of the Division and holds office at the Secretary's pleasure.

The Division assembles and disseminates information in the interest of economic, industrial, and tourist development; conducts studies to determine areas of special economic opportunity for the State and ways of exploiting such opportunities for the maximum benefit of the State and its residents; enters into contracts; and is empowered to utilize all existing State agencies, boards, commissions, and institutions as sources of information, except in such cases as are provided by law to be confidential and secret.

The programs of the Division are carried out through its five Divisions:

The Business and Industrial Development Office promotes, publicizes, and advertises Maryland's advantages and opportunities for the profitable location of sound new business and industries and the expansion of existing enterprises, and works with prospects and communities toward these ends. The Office initiates and maintains contacts with business and industrial prospects, answers their requests for information, and informs them about all Maryland locations which might meet their requirements for successful operation. It arranges for industrial prospects to visit Maryland communities of their choosing, and escorts them on such trips. The Office also assists, encourages, and cooperates with community, regional, and area development efforts, both public and private, including working with community groups in the preparation of Community Economic Inventories and other business and industrial reference and promotional publications.

It also conducts an advertising program in national and regional publications which call attention to Maryland's business and industrial advantages and opportunities. Finally, it assists and encourages the expansion within Maryland of existing Maryland industries and endeavors to help such industries solve problems which could jeopardize employment opportunities.

The Office of Economic Research is responsible for all economic research and technical information activities. It carries out these functions, under the supervision of a Chief, through the Statistics and Special Studies and Industry and Market Analysis Sections, each with its own staff.

The Statistics and Special Studies Section provides the Division and the State with an information center for professional-level economic and statistical data, and will serve as the contact point between the State and the sources of such data, which include the U. S. Bureau of the Census, the U. S. Department of Commerce, the Federal Re-