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In 1977 the Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled was created by Executive Order in accordance with federal statute (P.L. 94-103). The Unit is the State's official agency designated to protect and advocate the rights of the developmentally disabled in Maryland. It is a non-profit private corporation directed by a nine-member Board of Directors. The Governor appoints the Board's members.

The Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc., (MAUDD) has developed a network of advocacy services to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies to ensure the protection of the rights of disabled persons who are entitled to receive treatment, services, or habilitation within the State. MAUDD is independent of any State agency which provides treatment, services, or habilitation to persons with disabilities.

MAUDD serves disabled persons with problems in guardianship, special education, lack of adequate services in institutions and the community, abuse and neglect, as well as other problems related to their disability.

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DOMESTIC RELATIONS LAWS

Chairman: Beverly Anne Groner

John D. Alexander, Jr.; Benjamin L. Cardin; John P. Corderman; J. Joseph Curran; John W. Ester; Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman; Ruth H. Hobson; Bruce Alan Kaufman; Marvin J. Land; Gerard T. McDonough; Dorothy Curtis Melby; Joseph E. Owens; Thomas J. Peddicord, Jr.; Thomas A. Rymer; Robert B. Watts.

Samuel B. Groner, *Reporter*

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The Governor appointed this Commission in 1976 to undertake a complete study of the constitutional, statutory, and common law provisions concerning domestic relations and to make appropriate recommendations for improvement in the law. The Commission consists of members of the General Assembly, the Judiciary, the Maryland Bar, and other interested citizens.

The Commission made its first report to the Governor in January 1978. It submitted proposed legislation, which was enacted as Chapter 794, Acts of 1978. It affects the disposition of property upon divorce or annulment.

The Commission's second report, made in January 1980, contained proposed legislation which was enacted as Chapter 575, Acts of 1980. This law affects the respective alimony rights and obligations of spouses.

In its third report of January 1982, the Commission reported to the Governor on its recommendations for new laws affecting custody of children and grounds for divorce. The 1982 General Assembly did not pass the proposed legislation.

In 1983, the Commission proposed legislation affecting custody of children and grounds for divorce. The General Assembly did not pass the child custody proposal but did enact, with amendments, the proposal concerning grounds for divorce.

DOMICILIARY CARE FACILITIES BOARD

Chairperson: Constance Lieder, *Secretary of State Planning*

Edith G. Blount; Calhoun Bond; Betty K. Hamburger; Sally C. Myers; Charlene C. Quinn.

Ex officio: Rosalie S. Abrams, *Director on Aging;* Adele Wilzack, *Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;* Ruth Massinga, *Secretary of Human Resources.*

c/o Department of State Planning
301 W. Preston St.

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At the request of the General Assembly, the Governor created the Domiciliary Care Facilities Board in September 1984 (Joint Resolution no. 23, Acts of 1984). For all facilities that provide domiciliary, personal, or nursing care, the Board reviews and makes recommendations regarding issues that require interagency cooperation. The Board also develops coordinated standards to resolve problems involving community responses to facilities that provide domiciliary care.

The Board consists of four *ex officio* members and five consumer members appointed by the Governor.