

Department from making a grant to a museum that does not meet certain requirements; and generally relating to museums in the State and the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program.

BY adding to

Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development  
 Section 5-701 through ~~5-703~~ 5-705 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7.  
 Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program”  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (1988 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development**

**SUBTITLE 7. HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MUSEUM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

5-701.

(A) IT IS HEREBY FOUND AND DECLARED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT:

(1) HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE MUSEUMS PRESENT, INTERPRET, AND PRESERVE UNUSUAL AND SIGNIFICANT OBJECTS OF THE STATE’S HERITAGE FOR THE BENEFIT, ENJOYMENT, AND EDUCATION OF THE CITIZENS FROM EVERY COMMUNITY IN THE STATE;

(2) HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE MUSEUMS ARE UNIQUE AND BENEFICIAL RESOURCES WHICH SUPPLEMENT THE STATE’S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM;

(3) THESE MUSEUMS ARE THE REPOSITORIES AND CARETAKERS OF IRREPLACEABLE CULTURAL ITEMS FOR THE BENEFIT NOT ONLY OF TODAY’S GENERATION, BUT OF THOSE YET TO COME;

(4) MUSEUMS, MANY OF WHICH ARE LOCATED IN SMALL COMMUNITIES, PLAY AN IMPORTANT AND COST EFFECTIVE ROLE IN THE LEISURE TIME AND TOURISM INDUSTRY OF THE STATE; AND

(5) IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THE ENTIRE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE STATE BE DISPLAYED AND INTERPRETED TO THE PUBLIC WHERE IT HAPPENED, CREATING CENTERS OF COMMUNITY PRIDE AND DISPERSING TOURIST ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE STATE, SINCE IT IS NEITHER FEASIBLE NOR DESIRABLE TO TRY TO DISPLAY THAT HERITAGE IN A SINGLE FACILITY AT ONE LOCATION.

(B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE DECLARES THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST IS SERVED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROGRAM