

CHAP. 25. ble purpose of affording relief to each other and their respective families in the event of sickness, distress and death; and have prayed an act of incorporation that they may the better execute their intentions, and the legislature of Maryland being desirous of promoting such laudable institutions—
Therefore,

Persons incorporated—title

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Martin Mettee, Joseph Frazier, David Parr, Thomas Bond, William P. Cropper, Mark P. Taylor, and others that now are, or may hereafter become members of said Corporation herein created, or may be admitted into the said corporation agreeably to the constitution, rules and by-laws of the same, and their successors, are hereby declared to be one community corporate and body politic, by the name, style and title of the Howard Beneficial Society of Maryland.

Officers

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the affairs of the said society shall be managed and conducted by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, five Stewards, and a Messenger, to be elected annually, on, or near the fourth Thursday in April, in each and every year, in such manner as the said society shall think proper to appoint.

Corporate powers

Sec. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the present members of the said society, and their successors, by their corporate name, shall, and may have perpetual succession; and shall and may be at all times hereafter, persons able and capable in law, to purchase, take, have, and enjoy, to them and their successors in fee or less estate or estates, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, chattels, United States stock, Bank stock, registered debt, or other public securities, within the state aforesaid; by gift, purchase or devise of, or from any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, capable to make the same, at their pleasure; to alien, sell, transfer or lease in such manner as they may judge most conducive to the charitable uses of said society; *Provided nevertheless,* that the said corporation shall not at any time hold or possess property, real, personal, or mixed, exceeding in total value the sum of twenty thousand dollars.

Limitation

By-laws

Sec. 4. *And be it enacted,* That the said corporation may form such rules and regulations, and enact such by-laws as may be necessary for assuring and carrying into effect the benevolent purposes of this act; *Provided* such rules, regulations and by-laws, be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, and of the State of Maryland, and of the corporation of the city of Baltimore.