

in order to further the objectives of the World Communist movement; and

WHEREAS, other subversive groups have had similar objectives and it is essential to the preservation of the State, as well as for the protection of citizens from unfounded accusations, that criminal acts of a seditious nature be clearly and expressly defined; and

WHEREAS, the sovereign people of Maryland have adopted a Constitutional Amendment prohibiting any person who is a member of an organization which advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States or of the State of Maryland through force or violence from holding any position of profit or trust in the Government of the State of Maryland or in the government of any political sub-division of the State; and

WHEREAS, the methods adopted by subversive persons and organizations render it imperative that the loyalty of persons entering the public employment of the State of Maryland or any of its political sub-divisions be definitely established, not only for protection of governmental processes but in order to shield employees from unfounded accusations of disloyalty; and

WHEREAS, the Communist movement plainly presents a clear and present danger to the United States Government and to the State of Maryland, and the General Assembly of Maryland has therefore caused a study to be made of the laws of the United States and of other States and a program to be formulated by a Commission appointed pursuant to its direction in the Special Session of 1948, and as a result of such study this Statute has been proposed; therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Article be and it is hereby added to the Annotated Code of Maryland, said new Article to be known as Article 85A, to be under the title "Sedition and Subversive Activities", to follow immediately after Article 85 of said Code, and to read as follows:

1. For the purposes of this Article

"Organization" means an organization, corporation, company, partnership, association, trust, foundation, fund, club, society, committee, association, political party, or any group of persons, whether or not incorporated, permanently or temporarily associated together for joint action or advancement of views on any subject or subjects.