

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Sections 181A through 181K, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments", to be under a new sub-title "Maryland Historical Trust", to follow immediately after Section 181 thereof, and to read as follows:*

*Maryland Historical Trust*

181A. *The Maryland Historical Trust is hereby created for the purpose of preserving and maintaining historical, aesthetic and cultural properties, buildings, fixtures, furnishings, and appurtenances pertaining in any way to the Province and State of Maryland from earliest times, to encourage others to do so and to promote interest in and study of such matters.*

181B. *The purpose of the Maryland Historical Trust is declared to be of general benefit to the citizens of the State of Maryland and charitable in nature. The Trust shall have perpetual existence, subject to modification by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland if the same is necessary to effectuate the purpose of the Trust and subject to termination by the General Assembly when and if its substantial purpose ceases.*

181C. *The powers and duties of the Maryland Historical Trust shall vest in and be exercised by a body of fifteen Trustees. The Governor of the State of Maryland, the President of the Senate of the General Assembly of Maryland and the Speaker of the House of Delegates of the General Assembly shall be by virtue of their offices three of the Trustees with the same powers and duties as the other trustees as hereafter set forth. The three ex-officio trustees may delegate from time to time any or all of their powers or duties to an authorized representative, the Governor's representative to be a member of the Executive Department of the State of Maryland and the representatives of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to be a member of the Senate and the House of Delegates, respectively. The remaining twelve trustees shall be initially appointed by the Governor as follows: three members for terms of one year each; three members for terms of two years each; three members for terms of three years each; and three members for terms of four years each. As the terms of the appointed Trustees expire, their successors shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the Trustees for a term of four years and thereafter these positions shall be so filled. In the event that a Trustee for any reason fails to serve or to complete any appointed or elected term, a successor shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the Trustees for the remainder of such term. Selection of Trustees whether by delegation, appointment or election should be such as to obtain a broad geographical distribution of Trustees throughout the State of Maryland insofar as is practicable and consistent with the purpose of the Trust*

181D. *The Trustees shall serve without compensation.*

181E. (a) *The Trustees shall have the following powers and duties:*

(b) *To acquire, preserve and maintain historic, aesthetic and cultural properties, buildings, fixtures, furnishings and appurtenances*