

(d) *The general welfare of the people of the State will be promoted by giving further recognition to the arts as a vital part of our culture and heritage and as an important means of expanding the scope of our educational program for children and adults;*

(e) *Interest in the arts will provide employment for artists in all fields and encourage citizens to participate in the practice of the arts;*

(f) *Increased activities in the arts will increase employment in the State by encouraging the production of artistic events in various communities in the State, thus utilizing the talents and services of many citizens;*

(g) *The standards of artistic performance will be improved because of the encouragement of increased citizen participation, and a demand for higher standards from more citizens; and*

(h) *The general economy will be helped by the increased employment caused by the implementation of artistic programs, by the construction of places of performance and exhibition of artistic programs, and by many visitors who will visit the State to witness these programs.*

388. *The General Assembly declares it to be the policy of the State to strive to create a nurturing climate for the arts in the State and to join with private patrons and with institutions and professional organizations concerned with the arts, to ensure that the role of the arts in the life of the citizens of the State will continue to grow and play an ever more significant part in their welfare and educational experience.*

389. *The General Assembly declares that all activities undertaken by the State, in carrying out the policy set forth in Section 388 of this article, shall be directed toward encouraging and assisting rather than in any way limiting the freedom of artistic expression which is essential for the well-being of the arts.*

390. (a) *There is hereby created the Maryland Arts Council which shall be an executive agency responsible to the Governor.*

(b) *The Council shall consist of eleven members, nine of whom shall be selected as provided in paragraph (1) below and two of whom shall be selected as provided in paragraph (2) below:*

(i) *Nine members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor for terms of three years each. Initially these nine members shall be the nine members of that body formerly known as the Governor's Council on the Arts in Maryland, three of whom shall be appointed for terms of three years each, three for terms of two years each and three for terms of one year each, and thereafter these appointments shall be for three years each. Any member is eligible for reappointment, but after serving for two consecutive three-year terms, no member may be reappointed until the expiration of at least one year after the termination of his previous tenure. Vacancies shall be filled immediately for the remainder of the unexpired portion of the term. Members shall hold office until their successor has been appointed.*

(ii) *Two members of the Council at all times shall be members of the General Assembly of Maryland, one of whom shall be appointed*