

Administrative Departments," subtitle "St. Mary's City Commission" be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

365.

The St. Mary's City Commission is created for the purposes of preserving, developing, and maintaining historic St. Mary's City, and with the membership, powers, and duties here provided. *The St. Mary's City Commission shall be under the jurisdiction of the Department of Economic and Community Development.*

366.

The purposes of the St. Mary's City Commission are declared to be for the general benefit of the citizens of the State of Maryland and are charitable and educational in nature. The Commission is a body politic and corporate to be known as the "St. Mary's City Commission." It is a public agency and instrumentality of the *Department of Economic and Community Development of the State of Maryland* and shall have perpetual existence, subject to modification or abolition by the General Assembly when and if its substantial purposes cease.

367.

The powers and duties of the St. Mary's City Commission are vested in and shall be exercised by a body of seven (7) Commissioners. The Commissioners shall be [initially] appointed by the *Secretary of Economic and Community Development, with the approval of the Governor, [as follows: one member for a term of one year, one member for a term of two years, one member for a term of three years, two members for terms of four years each, and two members]* for terms of five years each. [as the terms of the Commissioners expire, their successors shall be appointed for terms of five years each.] Any Commissioner may be appointed to a succeeding term. If a Commissioner for any reason fails to serve or to complete any term, a successor shall be appointed for the remainder of the term. Commissioners shall be selected on the basis of ability, public spirit, and historical and professional interest; and the membership of the Commission at all times shall include not fewer than five residents of the State of Maryland, and not fewer than two residents of St. Mary's County.

369.

(a) The Commission has the powers and duties listed in this section and elsewhere in this subtitle *or delegated to it by the Secretary of Economic and Community Development.*

(b) To acquire, develop, preserve, and maintain historic, aesthetic, or cultural properties, building, fixtures, furnishings, facilities, and appurtenances pertaining in any way to historic St. Mary's City and its environs; and this provision specifically includes the replica of the State House in St. Mary's City.

(c) To acquire and hold real and personal property of such historic, aesthetic, or cultural significance, by gift, purchase, devise or bequest; to preserve and administer such properties and to charge