

(e) The council may employ such staff, and consult and retain such experts, as it deems necessary.

(f)(1) **[the]** *The governing bodies of the [member] participating governments may appropriate funds to meet the expenses of the council. Services of personnel, use of equipment and office space, and other necessary services may be accepted from [members] participating governments as part of their financial support.*

(2) The council may accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the government of the United States or its agencies, and from the State of Maryland or its departments, agencies or instrumentalities, or from any governmental unit whether participating in the council or not, and from private and civic sources.

(3) It shall make an annual report of its activities to the **[member]** *participating governments.*

(g) *The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments operating under the provisions of this section shall be entitled to receive State financial support to assist it in carrying out its activities on the basis of fifty per centum of the per capita contributions of the participating MARYLAND governments in the council; provided, however, that the State contribution shall not exceed an amount equal to the sum computed on the basis of ~~five thousand dollars (\$5,000)~~ THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED (\$3,200) for each fifty thousand (50,000) persons residing in the participating MARYLAND governments in the council. THIS AMOUNT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.*

Approved May 28, 1971.

CHAPTER 776

(House Bill 265)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 317-1(g), 317-5(a), 317-21, 317-35, 317-39, 317-51, ~~317-56(e)~~, 317-66, 317-79, and ~~318-82(a)~~ 317-82(A) of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume and 1970 Supplement), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Department," subtitle "Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact," AND TO ADD A NEW SECTION 317-56 (E) TO SAID ARTICLE AND SUBTITLE, TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER SECTION 317-56(D) THEREOF, to permit the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to perform charter service, to operate its facilities directly or by contract, to operate buses and to acquire any transit company by condemnation; to eliminate the six per centum interest limitation imposed on the revenue bonds and temporary borrowings of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; to permit an