

## CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS, Allegations have been made in published reports that certain organizations which conduct fund raising activities, or otherwise solicit contributions from the public for various charitable purposes, have had inordinately high administrative and other expenses, and that, as a result, a relatively small proportion of the contributions collected have actually been used for the intended charitable purpose; and

WHEREAS, Private philanthropy has always been, is now, and will continue to be vital in serving the humanitarian needs of the people of this nation and State; and

WHEREAS, If private philanthropy is to continue to play its necessary role, the public must be assured that its donations will, in fact, go for intended charitable purposes; and

WHEREAS, Although there will always be some administrative expense incurred in carrying on charitable fund raising activities, the State has a responsibility to ensure that there is no abuse in soliciting charitable contributions, and that the causes and institutions sought to be benefited actually receive the benefits of the contributions; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has attempted to regulate charitable fund raising activities by the enactment of various statutes, such as Section 103A to 103D of Article 41 and Sections 282 to 289 of Article 56 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, setting forth certain reporting and disclosure requirements; and

WHEREAS, It appears that further regulation may be necessary in order for the State to prevent abuse in this area;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARVIN MANDEL, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY ARTICLE II, SECTION 24, OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND BY ARTICLE 41, SECTION 15C OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROMULGATE THE FOLLOWING ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

1. The Governor's Commission on Charitable Organizations is established and consists of the following persons, each to serve at the