

(D) THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTY DO NOT YIELD THEIR SOVEREIGNTY TO THE AGENCIES WHICH SERVE THEM;

(E) THE PEOPLE, IN DELEGATING AUTHORITY, DO NOT GIVE THEIR PUBLIC SERVANTS THE RIGHT TO DECIDE WHAT IS GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE TO KNOW AND WHAT IS NOT GOOD FOR THEM TO KNOW; AND

(F) THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO REMAIN INFORMED IS PROTECTED SO THAT THEY MAY RETAIN CONTROL OVER THE INSTRUMENTS THEY CREATE.

8. DEFINITIONS

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "PUBLIC AGENCY" INCLUDES:

(1) ANY AGENCY, ASSEMBLY, AUTHORITY, BOARD, BUREAU, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, COUNSEL, OR DEPARTMENT OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION [[11(E)]] 15 OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING ADVISORY AND QUASI-JUDICIAL AGENCIES, SUPPORTED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY PUBLIC FUNDS OR AUTHORIZED TO EXPEND PUBLIC FUNDS; AND

(2) SUBCOMMITTEES AND OTHER SUBORDINATE UNITS OF THE AGENCIES ABOVE.

(C) "MEETING" MEANS THE CONVENING OF A QUORUM OF THE CONSTITUENT MEMBERSHIP OF A PUBLIC BODY TO DELIBERATE OR ACT UPON A MATTER OVER WHICH THE PUBLIC BODY HAS SUPERVISION, CONTROL, JURISDICTION OR ADVISORY POWER.

(D) "PUBLIC BUSINESS" MEANS ALL MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF A PUBLIC AGENCY WHICH ARE BEFORE AN AGENCY FOR OFFICIAL ACTION OR WHICH REASONABLY, FORESEEABLY MAY COME BEFORE THAT AGENCY IN THE FUTURE.

(E) "OFFICIAL ACTION" MEANS THE PHASES OF THE PROCESS IN WHICH A DECISION OR RECOMMENDATION IS REACHED INCLUDING RECEIPT OF INFORMATION, DELIBERATION AND DECISION OF A PUBLIC AGENCY.

(F) "STAFF MEETING" MEANS A MEETING OF [[TWO]] THREE OR MORE STAFF MEMBERS OR A STAFF MEMBER AND A MEMBER OF A PUBLIC AGENCY.

(G) "QUORUM" UNLESS OTHERWISE DEFINED BY APPLICABLE LAW, MEANS A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE CONSTITUENT MEMBERSHIP OF A PUBLIC BODY.

9. OPEN MEETINGS

(A) ALL MEETINGS OF A PUBLIC AGENCY AT WHICH OFFICIAL ACTION IS TAKEN REGARDING PUBLIC BUSINESS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 16 .