

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 7 through 22, respectively, of Article 76A - Public Information, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) be and they are hereby renumbered to be Sections ~~45~~ 16 through ~~30~~ 31, respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Sections 7 through ~~44~~ 15, inclusive to be under the new subtitle "Meetings of Public Bodies" be and they are hereby added to Article 76A - Public Information, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 76A - Public Information

MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES

7. PUBLIC POLICY

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY THAT EXCEPT IN SPECIAL AND APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES PUBLIC BUSINESS BE PERFORMED IN AN OPEN AND PUBLIC MANNER AND THAT THE CITIZENS BE ADVISED OF AND AWARE OF THE PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND THE DELIBERATIONS AND DECISIONS THAT GO INTO THE MAKING OF PUBLIC POLICY.

7 8. DEFINITIONS:

(A) AS USED IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "ADVISORY FUNCTION" MEANS THE STUDY, EVALUATION, OR THE MAKING OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN PURSUANT TO AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE FORM OF A CONSTITUTIONAL OR CHARTER PROVISION, LAW, STATUTE, RESOLUTION, ORDINANCE, ORDER, RULE, REGULATION, OR OTHER FORMAL ACTION BY OR ON BEHALF OF A PUBLIC BODY WHICH EXERCISES LEGISLATIVE, QUASI-LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL OR QUASI-JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS, OR BY THE GOVERNOR OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE.

~~(C) "ENTITY" MEANS AN EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMISSION, OR AUTHORITY OR ENTITY SIMILAR TO A BOARD, COMMISSION, OR AUTHORITY AND ANY LEGISLATIVE BODY.~~

~~(D)~~ (C) "EXECUTIVE FUNCTION" MEANS THE ADMINISTRATION OR APPLICATION BY A PUBLIC BODY OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, OR OF THE RULES, REGULATIONS, OR BYLAWS OF A PUBLIC BODY. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ACTION INCLUDED WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF ADVISORY, LEGISLATIVE, QUASI-LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL, OR QUASI-JUDICIAL FUNCTION. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ACTION INCLUDED WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF LEGISLATIVE, QUASI-LEGISLATIVE,