

be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 41 - Governor-Executive and Administrative
Departments

258.

[(a)] The Division of Economic Development is established and continued as the same Department of Economic Development hitherto existing. The Division of Economic Development shall be part of the Department of Economic and Community Development. The Division shall have the powers, duties, responsibilities and functions provided in the laws of this State for the Department of Economic Development. All references in this Code, in any other laws of this State, or in ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, legal actions, directives, or documents to the Department of Economic Development, shall be deemed to mean the Division of Economic Development. From and after September 1, 1970, all rights, powers, duties, obligations and functions heretofore conferred upon or exercised by the Department of Economic Development shall be transferred to and be exercised by the Division of Economic Development, subject to the authority of the Secretary of Economic and Community Development as set forth in this Code. The Division of Economic Development of the Department of Economic and Community Development shall have the general purpose of advancing the economic welfare of the people through programs and activities to develop in a proper manner the State's natural resources and economic opportunities and to promote and encourage the location of new industries and businesses in the State of Maryland as well as encouraging the expansion of existing industries and other matters intended to foster and develop gainful employment and the pursuit of happiness of all who now are or who may hereafter be residents of this State.

[(b)] To advise and assist in carrying out fully and effectively all the provisions of this subheading, the advisory powers and duties of the Division of Economic Development shall vest in and be exercised by a Maryland Economic Development Advisory Commission, to consist of twelve members who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Economic and Community Development, with the approval of the Governor.

The members shall represent a cross section of the economic and geographic composition of the State, and shall be selected because of their known experience and interest in the development of natural resources and industrial opportunities from the following areas of the State:

Two members from counties comprising the Eastern Shore; two members from the counties comprising southern Maryland; two members from the counties comprising central Maryland; two members from the counties comprising western Maryland; two members from Baltimore City; and two members appointed from the State at large.