

359.

The departments, agencies and officers of this State and its subdivisions are hereby authorized to cooperate with the Southern [Interstate Nuclear] STATES ENERGY Board in the furtherance of any of its activities pursuant to the compact.

359A.

(a) It is declared that the application of atomic energy to peaceful pursuits can result in situations involving governmental responsibility of the State of Maryland which are novel and without precedent. It is also declared that in coping with such situations it would be desirable for the State government to have ready access to the advice of qualified experts representing various scientific disciplines, professions, productive arts, and sectors of economic activity. It is also declared that such representatives can offer valuable advice to the State government that will enable THE [said] government to better cope with new situations or to grasp new opportunities for economic development arising from the peaceful application of atomic energy. It is further declared that the public interest will be served by the establishment of a commission composed of experts representing appropriate scientific disciplines, professions, productive arts, and sectors of the economic community to advise the Governor and the government of the State on questions arising from the peaceful application of atomic energy.

(b) An Advisory Commission on Atomic Energy is hereby created as part of the Department of [Economic and Community Development] NATURAL RESOURCES to advise the Governor and the State Government concerning matters arising from the peaceful application of atomic energy.

(c) The Commission shall be composed of eleven members, with one member representing each of the following fields: agriculture; atomic energy industry; education; labor; law; medicine; Maryland Port Administration; power; public health; transportation; AND sanitary engineering.

(d) The members of the Commission shall each be appointed by the Secretary of [Economic and Community Development,] NATURAL RESOURCES with the approval of the Governor[, ] for a term of four years [, except that initially two shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year, three for a term of two (2) years, three for a term of three (3) years, and the remainder for a term of four (4) years]. A chairman shall be designated by the Secretary of [Economic and Community Development,] NATURAL RESOURCES with the approval of the Governor.

(e) The Commission shall hold regular semiannual meetings, and such special meetings as it may deem necessary.