

(a) ["Civil defense and disaster preparedness"] "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE" means the preparation for and carrying out of all emergency functions other than functions for which military forces are primarily responsible, to save lives and to minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from [disasters] EMERGENCIES BEYOND THE CAPABILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

(b) "Local organization for [civil defense and disaster preparedness] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE" means an organization created in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle by city, town, county, or other local authority as authorized by the Governor under the State plan.

(d) "Emergency" means the threat OR OCCURRENCE of an enemy attack or any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, EARTHQUAKE, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, ACT OF TERRORISM or other catastrophe in any part of the State which requires STATE emergency assistance to supplement local efforts in order to save lives and protect public health and safety[, or to avert or lessen the threat of a major disaster].

[(e) "Major disaster" means an enemy attack on the United States threatening or causing damage in the State and any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, or other catastrophe in any part of the State which, in the determination of the Governor, causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a request for assistance from the federal government, above and beyond emergency services by the federal government, in order to supplement the efforts and available resources of the State and local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.]

4.

(a) [The Governor shall create a Civil Defense and Disaster Preparedness] THERE IS A STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE Agency. The Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services shall, with the approval of the Governor, appoint a STATE Director of [Civil Defense and Disaster Preparedness] STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE who shall be the [administrator] EXECUTIVE HEAD OF [thereof] THE AGENCY. The [Civil Defense and Disaster Preparedness] STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE Agency shall be part of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. The Director shall hold office during the pleasure of the Secretary, and shall receive such salary as is provided in the budget.

(b) Subject to the authority of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Director may