

## EXECUTIVE ORDER OF JULY 25, 1980

01.01.1980.11

## INFORMATION PRACTICES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The Constitutions of Maryland and of the United States guarantee a fundamental right of privacy under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, There must be a reasonable balance between an individual's right of privacy and the public's right to be informed; and

WHEREAS, A society founded on democratic values necessarily requires governmental openness and accountability; and

WHEREAS, It is well recognized that in an age of computers there are contrasting dangers of overexposing personal information and underexposing information that should be made public; and

WHEREAS, State government must seek a proper balance between the individual right of personal privacy, the practices of public organizations in accumulating, maintaining and disseminating information about people, and the need of the public to be informed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY HUGHES, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, DO HEREBY PROMULGATE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

1. The Information Practices Commission is hereby created.
2. The Commission consists of thirteen members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a member of the House of Delegates, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate, one of whom shall represent the Department of Personnel, one of whom shall represent the Comptroller of the Treasury, one of whom shall represent the Department of General Services, one of whom shall represent the Attorney General's Office, and seven public-at-large members. The Governor shall designate a chairperson from among the thirteen members.
3. The Commission shall conduct a thorough study of policies and procedures regarding the collection, maintenance, use, security, dissemination, and destruction of personal