

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative
Departments

103A.

(a) The following words, as used in this subtitle, have the meanings indicated unless the context of their use clearly requires otherwise.

(b) "Charitable organization" means an organization which is or holds itself out to be a benevolent, educational, philanthropic, humane, patriotic, religious, or eleemosynary organization and solicits or obtains contributions solicited from the public for charitable purposes. It includes a chapter, branch, area, office, or similar affiliate soliciting contributions within the State of Maryland for a charitable organization which has its principal place of business outside the State. It does not include a political party, political committee, political club, or an agency of the State government, or of a political subdivision.

(c) "Contribution" means income, and includes the enforceable pledge, payment, or rendition of money, property, or service. EACH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION MAY HONOR CREDIT CARDS AS PAYMENT. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EACH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION SHALL DETERMINE WHICH CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. ~~FOR--THE--PURPOSE--OF--COMPUTING--THE--INTEREST--OF--A--CREDIT--CARD--(OPEN--END--ACCOUNT)--FOR--CHARITABLE--CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT--TO--FINANCE--CHARGES,--THE--CONTRIBUTION--MAY--NOT--BE ASSESSED--A--FINANCE--CHARGE--UNTIL--THE--CONTRIBUTOR--IS--BILLED.~~ It does not include the payment of bona fide membership dues, fines, or assessments, or payments for property sold or services rendered by the charitable organization, if not sold or rendered in connection with a solicitation.

(d) "Federated fund-raising organization" means a federation of independent charitable organizations which have voluntarily joined together, including but not limited to a united fund or community chest, for the purpose of raising and distributing money for and among themselves and where membership in the federation does not confer operating authority and control of the individual charitable organizations upon the federation.

(e) "Parent organization" means that part of a charitable organization which coordinates, supervises, or exercises control over one or more chapters, branches or affiliates in the State.