

rejection, or otherwise deciding whether to implement a grant, and

WHEREAS, The Federal statutes establishing block grants in some instances authorize funds to be transferred from one block grant which the State has accepted to another block grant, and

~~WHEREAS, ---Other---proposals---to---alter---fundamental federal/state---relations---in---areas---that---are---of---major importance---to---the---health---and---welfare---of---the---citizens---of Maryland---may---be---proposed,---including---but---not---limited---to transferring---responsibility---for---programs---from---one---level---of government---to---another,---and~~

WHEREAS, -Decisions Because decisions relating to both the application and effect of Federal budget cuts and the assumption and implementation of Federal block grants have far reaching consequences on local governments as direct providers of service; consultation with local governments and services, the consideration of the effects of State-level decisions on the local programs, services, and fiscal burdens needs to be considered by both the General Assembly and the Governor, and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes that, to the extent possible, policy decisions regarding participation in block grants, or transfers between block grants or participation in any other programs that reflect fundamental changes in federal/state relations which may be enacted by the Congress, are of such importance and significance that both the executive and legislative branches of State government must be involved. Further, the General Assembly believes that inasmuch as Federal response dates frequently require action at the State level at times the legislature is not in session, procedures must be established to provide for legislative consultation whether the General Assembly is in or out of session.

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 15A - Budget and Fiscal Planning

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS

15A.

~~(A)---BLOCK GRANTS-----GRANT-IN-AID---PROGRAMS---IN---WHICH FUNDING---FOR---ONE---OR---MORE---PROGRAMS---HAS---BEEN---CONSOLIDATED---INTO ONE GRANT AND ARE GENERALLY REFERRED TO BY CONGRESS AS BLOCK GRANTS.~~