

ACTIVITIES NECESSARY TO INSURE THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY LEGAL SERVICES.

45D. CORPORATION - ESTABLISHMENT.

(A) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND A NONSTOCK CORPORATION WHICH SHALL BE KNOWN AS "THE MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION" FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTING FUNDS TO GRANTEEES THAT PROVIDE LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN NONCRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS OR MATTERS TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS.

(B) THE CORPORATION SHALL MAINTAIN ITS PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN THE STATE AND SHALL MAINTAIN A DESIGNATED AGENT TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR THE CORPORATION WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS SHALL BE FILED WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION.

(C) THE CORPORATION IS EXEMPT FROM ALL SPECIAL AND ORDINARY TAXES AND FROM DOCUMENTARY STAMP AND TRANSFER TAXES IMPOSED BY THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THEREOF.

(D) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE CORPORATION IS NOT A DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE STATE.

45E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(A) MEMBERSHIP.

THE CORPORATION SHALL HAVE A BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSISTING OF 9 VOTING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE ~~NO MORE THAN 5 OF WHOM SHALL BE OF THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY.~~ FIVE MEMBERS SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE BAR OF THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND AND 4 SHALL BE NONLAWYERS. BOARD MEMBERS SHALL BE RESIDENTS OF THE STATE, WHO REPRESENT THE DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS OF THE STATE, AND ~~SHALL HAVE A DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY LEGAL SERVICES TO THE POOR.~~

(B) TERM OF OFFICE.

THE TERM OF OFFICE OF EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL BE 3 YEARS EXCEPT THAT 3 OF THE MEMBERS FIRST APPOINTED, AS DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR WHEN FIRST APPOINTED, SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF 1 YEAR AND 3 SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF 2 YEARS. EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL CONTINUE TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR HAS BEEN APPOINTED. ANY VACANCY OCCURRING ON THE BOARD DURING THE TERM OF ANY MEMBER SHALL BE FILLED BY THE GOVERNOR FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM. A MEMBER MAY NOT BE REAPPOINTED TO MORE THAN 2 CONSECUTIVE TERMS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THAT MEMBER'S INITIAL TERM.

(C) STATUS.