

(1978 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The General Assembly in its 1979 Session determined that public accessibility to documents produced by governmental bodies must be improved; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 19 was approved on May 1, 1979, urging the Governor to establish a Task Force to study this matter; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's Task Force on Documents in its October 1981 Report has found existing practices for the identification, collection, distribution, and retention of State documents to be woefully inadequate; and

WHEREAS, The Task Force has developed recommendations in the form of draft legislation for the establishment of a basic system designed to improve the public's access to State documents; now, therefore,

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 40 - General Assembly

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{ (d) -- Each State agency or official shall provide to the Department of Legislative Reference a list of all reports and publications issued by them which are either required by law or intended by them for distribution to the General Assembly. The Department shall compile and maintain a list of all these reports and publications and shall periodically forward these lists to the members of the General Assembly for the purpose of furnishing them a reference source from which they may request reports and publications from the Department of Legislative Reference. In addition, the Department shall preserve, catalogue, and index all reports and publications filed with or submitted to the Department by the various State agencies and officials in compliance with either the requirement of § 53 of this article or the requirements of numerous sections elsewhere in the Code, and may select, preserve, catalogue, and index other reports and publications it deems necessary. }

{ (D) -- THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SHALL PROVIDE A LIST OF ALL STATE PUBLICATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE EDUCATION ARTICLE, § 23-208 (B) (3) AND SHALL PERIODICALLY FORWARD THE LIST TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURNISHING A REFERENCE SOURCE FROM WHICH