

## ANTI-ARSON ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The occurrence of the crime of arson in Maryland has reaches serious proportions and is estimated to have increased by at least 8 percent in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Each year an average of 15 Marylanders die as a result of fires set by arsonists; and

WHEREAS, The property damage caused by arsons in 1981 is estimated at approximately 30 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has recently improved its capabilities in combatting the crime of arson through, among other things, the initiation of additional training programs for fire service, law enforcement personnel and assistant state's attorneys, with the development of a statewide incident reporting system, and by deployment of regional fire investigators throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, There is a continuing need to evaluate the effectiveness of state and local programs related to arson prevention, detection, and control and to develop statewide strategies, as appropriate, to combat the crime;

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 ISSUE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER:

1. There is established an anti-Arson Advisory Council which shall advise the Governor on a periodic and continuing basis concerning necessary statewide strategies for arson prevention, detection and control in Maryland.

2. The Council shall be chaired by the Secretary of Public Service and Correctional Services, or his designee, and shall consist of a representative from:

(a) The Maryland Senate and House of Delegates;

(b) Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, Inc.;

(c) Maryland State Fire and Rescue Advisory Council;