

WHEREAS, Job loss is a personal crisis for the unemployed individual regardless of former occupation, industry, or income, political subdivision of residence within the State or the relative poverty or affluence of neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Projected changes in the work force to the end of the century and projected technological changes in the work place reflecting a shift from an industrial economy to a service and information based economy combine to require the need for a long term commitment to training and retraining programs; and

WHEREAS, The economic costs of unemployment in the State are estimated to exceed \$420 million during 1982-1983 including \$300 million in unemployment insurance benefits, \$30 million in public assistance to recipients who could work if jobs and training were available and \$90 million in lost income tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, Economic recovery alone will not reduce joblessness among the 300,000 economically disadvantaged and laid-off industrial workers in this State whose limited or outdated skills force them into chronic unemployment; and

WHEREAS, The rapid pace of technological change and the concurrent decline in heavy industry will produce an even greater number of dislocated workers unless retraining is made available; and

WHEREAS, Investment in improving the skill levels of the work force will improve employment prospects for the jobless and promote economic development in this State; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 100 - Work, Labor and Employment

MARYLAND JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

117.

THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE REFERRED TO AS THE "MARYLAND JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT".

118.

(A) IT IS STATE POLICY TO COORDINATE ALL THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESS, LABOR, AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO FOSTER AND PROMOTE A BALANCED, EQUITABLE, AND COST-EFFECTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SYSTEM. TO EFFECTUATE THIS POLICY THERE SHALL BE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN IMPLEMENTING THE FEDERAL JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT AND THIS SUBTITLE.