

(d) To the extent practicable, when appointing members of the Council, the Governor shall assure geographic balance and promote racial and gender diversity in the Council's membership.]

[9-2504.

The Governor shall designate a chairman from among the members of the Council who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.]

[ 9-2505.

The Council shall meet at the times and places it determines.]

[9-2506.

(a) The purpose of the Council is to assist the Governor in ensuring that the State maintains an adequate and coordinated strategy for detecting, preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from an emergency in the State or in a portion of the State.

(b) In fulfilling its purpose, the Council shall:

(1) work with State agencies, other state governments, local governments, federal agencies, and private entities in the development of appropriate and necessary emergency management plans;

(2) periodically review and assess the adequacy of all emergency management plans developed by State agencies and, as requested, by local governments and private entities;

(3) recommend changes to any emergency management plan and coordinate revisions to any emergency management plan submitted to the Council; and

(4) ensure, to the extent possible, that all appropriate and necessary information relating to the State's emergency management strategy is disseminated to and exchanged among appropriate entities.]

[9-2507.

(a) The Council may not be construed to exercise operational authority over the State's emergency management response, except as directed by the Governor.

(b) Consistent with its reporting obligations under § 9-2508 of this subtitle, the authority of the Council is advisory only.]

[9-2508.

All personnel in any governmental unit shall cooperate with the Council in the discharge of the functions of the Council and with regard to any reasonable request that the Council makes for information associated with its purpose under this subtitle.]