

assistance to governmental agencies and private organizations concerned with programs and activities to develop the resources and economic opportunities of the region"; and

WHEREAS, The Delmarva Advisory Council has, since its inception, effectively performed its role to foster intergovernmental cooperation and the resolution of conflict by providing the public forum to coordinate planning and decision making for issues which do not stop at jurisdictional boundaries on the Delmarva Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The Delmarva Advisory Council, in addition, ~~performs--the--role--of--the--Economic-Development-Planning-Council for the Economic-Development-Administration--in--its--efforts--to assist--the--Delmarva-Economic-Development-District--and~~ may, with the approval of the 3 Governors, participate in regional efforts and programs involving relevant federal and State programs; and

WHEREAS, There is an increased need for the Delmarva Advisory Council to be an effective positive force for the resolution of regional problems by the concerted action of the administrations of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Delmarva Advisory Council has demonstrated its capacity and capability to function as a viable organization to accomplish the regional needs of the Delmarva Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The legislatures of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia jointly direct that it is in the best interest of their respective states to reaffirm, endorse, and support the role of the Delmarva Advisory Council as the organization "to advance the economic and cultural welfare of the people of the Delmarva Peninsula through advice, counsel, and assistance to governmental agencies and private organizations concerned with programs and activities to develop the resources and economic opportunities of the region" and to support the activities of the Council by joint State funding; now, therefore,

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

ARTICLE 32B - DELMARVA ADVISORY COUNCIL

1-101.

THERE IS CREATED BY MUTUAL LEGISLATION OF DELAWARE, MARYLAND, AND VIRGINIA, THE DELMARVA ADVISORY COUNCIL AS A REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE DELMARVA PENINSULA AREA CONSISTING OF ALL OF THE DELMARVA PENINSULA SOUTH OF THE CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL. THIS INCLUDES ALL OF KENT AND SUSSEX COUNTIES AND A PORTION OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY IN DELAWARE; ALL OF THE COUNTIES OF KENT, QUEEN ANNE'S, CAROLINE, TALBOT, DORCHESTER, WICOMICO, WORCESTER, AND SOMERSET AND A PORTION OF CECIL COUNTY IN MARYLAND; AND ALL OF THE COUNTIES OF ACCOMACK AND NORTHAMPTON IN VIRGINIA.