

{2}--A GUARANTEE OF THE LESSOR OF UP TO 50 PERCENT OF THE INVESTMENT OR \$50,000 BY THE AUTHORITY OF AN INVESTMENT MADE BY A PROFESSIONAL INVESTOR IN THE QUALIFIED SECURITIES OF AN ENTERPRISE.

{F} {1}--"DEVELOPMENT---COMPANY"----MEANS---AN---ENTERPRISE INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURTHERING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONS OF THE COMPANY AND WITH THE AUTHORITY TO PROMOTE AND ASSIST THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS IN THE AREAS COVERED BY THEIR OPERATIONS.

{2}--A--"DEVELOPMENT--COMPANY"--MAY BE ORGANIZED EITHER AS A PROFIT--OR--NONPROFIT--ENTERPRISE,--AND--INCLUDES--CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT--COMPANIES,--COMMUNITY--DEVELOPMENT--CORPORATIONS,--AND DEVELOPMENT--COMPANIES--AND--REVOLVING--FUNDS--ASSISTED--BY--THE ECONOMIC--DEVELOPMENT--ADMINISTRATION.

{G} {1} (B) "ENTERPRISE" MEANS A SMALL BUSINESS ENTITY AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, A PARTNERSHIP, A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CORPORATION, OR A JOINT VENTURE CARRYING ON A BUSINESS OR PROPOSING TO CARRY ON A BUSINESS WITHIN THE STATE AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 13-231 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

{H}--"FEDERAL--LEVERAGE"--MEANS--FINANCIAL--ASSISTANCE--PROVIDED TO AN ENTERPRISE OR TO A QUALIFIED SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING COMPANY BY THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OR BY ANY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY,--INCLUDING--THE--PURCHASE--OR--GUARANTY--OF--DEBT INSTRUMENTS,--THE--PURCHASE--OF--PREFERRED--SECURITIES,--OR--THE--GRANT OR LOAN OF FUNDS.

{I}--"FINANCIAL AID"--MEANS--VENTURE--CAPITAL--FINANCING.

{2} (C) "EQUITY PARTICIPATION FINANCING" MEANS ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM INCLUDING INVESTMENT OR GUARANTY OF INVESTMENT IN AN ENTERPRISE.

{J} {3} (D) "FRANCHISING FRANCHISE" MEANS A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT AND HAS THE MEANING USED IN ARTICLE 56, § 345 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE. --FRANCHISE-- INCLUDES ONLY THOSE FRANCHISE OFFERINGS THAT ARE REGISTERED OR EXEMPT UNDER THE MARYLAND FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW, ARTICLE 56, §§ 345 THROUGH 365D, OF THE ANNOTATED CODE.

{K} {1}--"INVESTMENT COMPANY"--MEANS--EITHER--A--CORPORATION--OR A--LIMITED--PARTNERSHIP--TO--WHICH--A--LICENSE--HAS--BEEN--GRANTED--BY--THE FEDERAL--SMALL--BUSINESS--ADMINISTRATION--FOR--THE--PURPOSE--OF PROVIDING--CAPITAL--TO--SMALL--BUSINESSES.

{2}--"INVESTMENT---COMPANY"----INCLUDES----INVESTMENT COMPANIES LICENSED BY THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 301 (C) OR § 301 (D) OF THE FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT.