

- (12) Maryland Bicentennial Commission for the Commemoration of the American Revolution;
- (13) Division of Tourism;
- (14) Commission on Afro-American History and Culture;
- (15) Commission on Indian Affairs;
- (16) Maryland Housing Policy Commission[.]; AND
- (17) OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

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(A) THERE IS AN OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

(B) IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSE SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHALL:

~~(1) -- ENCOURAGE --- EXISTING --- AND --- POTENTIAL --- EXPORTING COMPANIES TO INCREASE THEIR EXPORT ACTIVITIES BY:~~

(1) ENCOURAGE MARYLAND BUSINESSES TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ACTIVITIES, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON EXPORTS, BY:

(I) PROVIDING INFORMATIONAL AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES ON THE EXPORT INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROCESS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MARKET RESEARCH AND SELECTION, MARKETING TECHNIQUES AND RISKS, FOREIGN TRADE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF PRIVATE OR PUBLIC FINANCING;

(II) DEVELOPING PUBLICATIONS TO FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF PRODUCT AND SERVICES INFORMATION BETWEEN MARYLAND BUSINESSES AND FOREIGN BUSINESSES;

(III) IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, INITIATING AND ORGANIZING TRADE MISSIONS TO AND FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND PARTICIPATION IN TRADE FAIRS;

(IV) SERVING AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES BEING OFFERED BY THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS TO SUPPLEMENT EXISTING EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS;

(V) ESTABLISHING AN OUTREACH PROGRAM TO SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED BUSINESSES WITH EXPORT POTENTIAL THAT PROVIDES COUNSELING AND THAT UTILIZES EXPERIENCED PRIVATE SECTOR EXPORTERS AND OTHER QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS;