

administrations of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties; and

WHEREAS, The Council has demonstrated its capacity and capability to function as a viable organization to accomplish the regional needs of the tri-county area of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland directs that it is in the best interest of the tri-county region of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties to reaffirm, endorse, and support the role of the Tri-County Council of Western Maryland as the organization to advance the economic and social welfare of the people of the tri-county region, to carry on a continuing comprehensive development program, and to stimulate public interest and participatory planning for the development of the region; now, therefore,

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

ARTICLE 20A - TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL OF WESTERN MARYLAND

TITLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1-101.

(A) THERE IS A TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR WESTERN MARYLAND.

(B) THE TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR WESTERN MARYLAND IS AN ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AS A REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE TRI-COUNTY AREA.

(C) THE TRI-COUNTY AREA CONSISTS OF ALL OF ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.

1-102.

(A) IN THIS ARTICLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "AREA" MEANS THE REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AREA THAT INCLUDES ALL OF ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.

(C) "COMMISSIONERS" MEANS THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.

(D) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR WESTERN MARYLAND.

(E) "PLAN" MEANS A REGIONAL PLAN PREPARED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ALL OF ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.

(F) "REGION" MEANS THE AREA THAT INCLUDES ALL OF ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.