

liaison between State government and the various ethnic communities; and

(6) Promote the research on and the preservation of the traditions and artifacts of Maryland's ethnic cultures.

[(c)] 5-503. The Commission shall consist of 15 members who shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among the various ethnic communities in the State.

[(d)] 5-504. At the first meeting of each fiscal year, the Commission shall elect from among its members a chairman and vice chairman.

[(e)] 5-505. Each member serves for a term of 3 years. The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms of the members serving on July 1, 1984. Any member may be reappointed, except that any member who has served 2 consecutive 3-year terms may not be reappointed until at least 1 year after the expiration of that member's previous tenure.

[(f)] 5-506. Each member shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations.

[(g)] 5-507. The Commission shall have the power and authority necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon it by this [section] SUBTITLE, including without limitation, but subject to the approval of the Secretary [of Economic and Community Development], the following:

(1) Adopting rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of this [section] SUBTITLE;

(2) Entering into contracts and agreements;

(3) Requesting and obtaining from any State agency such assistance and data that will enable the Commission to carry out its powers and duties;

(4) Accepting any federal or other public funds for any of the purposes of this section; and

(5) Accepting any gifts, donations, or requests for any or all of the purposes of this section.

[(h)] 5-508. The Commission, subject to the approval of the Secretary [of Economic and Community Development], shall appoint from without its members a Director of the Commission. The Director shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission, subject to the approval of the Secretary [of Economic and Community Development], and shall be an unclassified employee of the State.