

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED PERSONS

WHEREAS, On October 4, 1975, the President of the United States signed into law the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-103), providing for the protection of the rights of certain persons who are disabled by conditions resulting in an impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-103 requires the State to develop a system to protect and advocate the rights of persons with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-103 requires that the State system, through its implementing agency, be able to pursue appropriate remedies for the protection and advocacy of the rights of such persons who receive treatment or services in the State, and also be independent of any agency which provides treatment or services to such persons; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-103 requires the Governor to designate the agency responsible for the implementation of the State system; and

WHEREAS, In October, 1977, Governor Blair Lee III issued Executive Order 01.01.1977.07 which designated the Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled as the official agency for purposes of Public Law 94-103; and

WHEREAS, In October, 1984, the Maryland Advocacy Unit for the Developmentally Disabled changed its title to the Maryland Disabilities Law Center, Inc., to reflect the expansion of its program responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY HUGHES, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 6(B) AND 24 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, BY ARTICLE 41, SECTION 15C, AND BY PUBLIC LAW 95-103, HEREBY RESCIND EXECUTIVE ORDER 01.01.1977.07 AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER:

1. (a) The Maryland Disabilities Law Center, Inc., a private, non-profit corporation incorporated under Maryland law, is designated as the official agency, for purposes of Public Law 94-103, responsible for the implementation of the State system for the protection and advocacy of the rights of the developmentally disabled.
- (b) The Maryland Disabilities Law Center, Inc., shall perform the functions, duties, and responsibilities authorized to be performed or