

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO THE COMMISSION.

(E) THE COMMISSION MAY ELECT AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS THAT, DURING THE INTERVALS BETWEEN MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION, MAY EXERCISE ALL THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(F) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER POWERS SET FORTH IN THIS TITLE, THE COMMISSION MAY:

(1) ADOPT BYLAWS TO REGULATE ITS AFFAIRS AND THE CONDUCT OF ITS BUSINESS;

(2) CONTRACT FOR AND ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF CONSULTANTS; AND

(3) DO ANYTHING NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO CARRY OUT ITS POWERS AND THE PURPOSES OF THIS TITLE.

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(A) (1) THE COMMISSION MAY NOT EXCEED ~~24~~ 25 VOTING MEMBERS AND SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(2) THE SECRETARY SHALL SERVE AS A NONVOTING EX OFFICIO COMMISSION MEMBER.

(3) THE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR SHALL BE INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST OR EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS OR KNOWLEDGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

(4) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION GEOGRAPHIC AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATION WHEN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION. ~~THE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION SHALL COVER ALL REGIONS OF THE STATE.~~

(II) THE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION SHALL COVER THE ENTIRE STATE.

(III) THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REGIONS:

1. THE UPPER EASTERN SHORE;

2. THE LOWER EASTERN SHORE;

3. THE TRI-COUNTY AREA OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND (CHARLES, CALVERT, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES);

4. GARRETT AND ALLEGANY COUNTIES; AND

5. CARROLL, FREDERICK, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES.