

Title [2.]3. [Division of] Business Development AND RESOURCES.

Subtitle 1. [Division of Business Development] OBJECTIVES.

[2-101.] 3-101.

[(a) The Division of Business Development is established as part of the Department.

(b) The Division of Business Development of] IN THE FURTHERANCE OF ITS MISSION TO ATTRACT AND ENCOURAGE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE THE NEEDS OF BUSINESSES, the Department shall [have the general purpose of]:

(1) ADVANCE [advancing] the economic welfare of the people through programs and activities [to] THAT develop in a proper manner the State's natural resources and economic opportunities;

(2) PROMOTE [and to promote] and encourage the location AND CREATION of new industries and businesses in the State of Maryland as well as encouraging the RETENTION AND expansion of existing industries;

(3) SUPPORT THE CREATION OF NEW AND THE GROWTH OF EXISTING BUSINESSES IN MARYLAND BY IMPROVING THEIR QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, AND COMPETITIVE POSITION IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE;

(4) ASSIST THE GROWTH AND REVITALIZATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES;

(5) SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF THE STATE AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES BY PROVIDING CONSULTING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND LIAISON ACTIVITIES ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES;

(6) PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE ACTIVITIES;

(7) ASSIST BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYEES THROUGH TRAINING AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT SERVICES;

(8) PROMOTE REGULATORY REFORM AND COORDINATE EFFORTS WITH OTHER STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES; AND

(9) FOSTER [and other matters intended to foster] and develop gainful employment [and the pursuit of happiness of all who now are or who may hereafter be] OPPORTUNITIES FOR residents of this State.

SUBTITLE 2. OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES.

3-201.

THERE IS AN OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.