

WHEREAS, New technology has improved telecommuting capabilities and some sophisticated telecommuting systems are currently in place; and

WHEREAS, The Departments of Personnel and the Environment have recommended that a statewide policy be developed to permit agencies to establish telecommuting programs; now, therefore,

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

Article - State Personnel and Pensions

SUBTITLE 6. TELECOMMUTING PILOT PROGRAM.

3-601.

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

(B) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE TELECOMMUTING PILOT PROGRAM.

(C) "TELECOMMUTING" MEANS USING TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY TO WORK AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN A TRADITIONAL OFFICE SETTING.

3-602.

(A) THE GOVERNOR SHALL ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE TELECOMMUTING PILOT PROGRAM.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO ALLOW STATE EMPLOYEES TO WORK AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN A STATE OFFICE THROUGH THE USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

3-603.

(A) THE SECRETARY SHALL:

(1) ADOPT GUIDELINES AND POLICIES TO ESTABLISH AND CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM.

3-604.

ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1996, THE SECRETARY SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE EFFECT OF THE PILOT PROGRAM WITHIN EACH OF THE DEPARTMENTS THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Personnel, for the purposes of review and comment, shall notify the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee upon the selection of the State agencies that will participate in this Pilot Program.