

**The Charter of Baltimore City**

**Article II - General Powers**

The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall have full power and authority to exercise all of the powers heretofore or hereafter granted to it by the Constitution of Maryland or by any Public General or Public Local Laws of the State of Maryland; and in particular, without limitation upon the foregoing, shall have power by ordinance, or such other method as may be provided for in its Charter, subject to the provisions of said Constitution and Public General Laws:

(64) (A) TO ESTABLISH BY ORDINANCE AN AUTHORITY KNOWN AS "~~CHILDREN~~ CHILD FIRST" THAT USES EXISTING FACILITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL, AND OTHER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN.

(B) THE AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

(1) IS AN INDEPENDENT UNIT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY GOVERNMENT;

(2) SHALL HAVE THOSE POWERS AND DUTIES CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THE AUTHORITY, DELEGATED THROUGH THE ORDINANCE THAT THE CITY ITSELF COULD OTHERWISE EXERCISE; AND

(3) IS EXEMPT FROM THOSE LAWS OR PROCEDURES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY TO ANY UNIT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY GOVERNMENT TO THE EXTENT EXEMPTED BY THE ORDINANCE.

(C) THE AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

(1) SHALL HAVE A MANAGEMENT BOARD AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS PRESCRIBED IN THE ORDINANCE ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION;

(2) MAY SUE OR BE SUED;

(3) MAY ACQUIRE, LEASE, OR HOLD PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE AUTHORITY;

(4) MAY INCUR LIMITED OBLIGATION DEBT THAT SHALL BE AN OBLIGATION SOLELY OF THE AUTHORITY IF AUTHORIZED BY THE ORDINANCE;

(5) MAY EMPLOY STAFF OR CONTRACT FOR ANY SERVICES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE AUTHORITY;

(6) MAY ADOPT BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF THE AUTHORITY;

(7) MAY ESTABLISH FEES NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE AUTHORITY;

(8) MAY MAKE CONTRACTS OF ANY KIND AND EXECUTE ANY INSTRUMENT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE AUTHORITY;