

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

**Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development**

3-701.

(A) (1) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "BOARD" MEANS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR WORKFORCE QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD.

(3) "FUND" MEANS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR WORKFORCE QUALITY FUND.

(4) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR WORKFORCE QUALITY PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

[(a)](B) There is a Partnership for Workforce Quality Program within the Department of Business and Economic Development.

[(b)](C) The Partnership for Workforce Quality Program shall provide training services:

(1) To improve the competitiveness and productivity of Maryland's workforce and business community;

(2) To upgrade employee skills for new technologies or production processes; and

(3) To assist Maryland businesses in promoting employment stability.

3-702.

(a) (1) There is a Partnership for Workforce Quality Advisory Board as part of the Department of Business and Economic Development.

(2) (i) The Board shall consult on a regular basis with the Work Force Investment Board and Commission concerning the activities of the Partnership for Workforce Quality Program.

(ii) The Board shall submit a quarterly report on the Program to the Work Force Investment Board.

(3) The Board consists of 15 members, appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Business and Economic Development and the Chairman of the Work Force Investment Board.

(4) The Board membership shall include:

(i) 5 representatives of business of which 3 shall be representatives of employers with ~~less~~ FEWER than 100 employees;

(ii) 3 representatives of organized labor;