

CHAPTER 656

(House Bill 684)

AN ACT concerning

Information Technology – Commission Board – Membership and Duties

~~FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Information Technology; specifying the composition, appointment, terms, restrictions, and removal procedures of the Commission members; specifying the powers and duties of the Commission regarding Internet related issues; requiring the Commission to submit an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly; and generally relating to the nature and responsibilities of the Commission on Information Technology altering the membership and duties of the Information Technology Board; and generally relating to the Information Technology Board.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 3-406

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY adding to repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section ~~3-707~~ 3-407 and 3-409

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In the past decade the Internet and related information technology has rapidly overtaken traditional communications technologies and is now poised to become a primary means of communication in education, business, health care, and government; and

WHEREAS, The Internet raises a number of unique issues for the State of Maryland, including how to facilitate both government and private electronic commerce, how to protect the privacy of Internet users, and how to approach Internet-related crimes; and

WHEREAS, The nature of the Internet is such that it is not amenable to traditional state regulation and new approaches must be taken to deal with the issues the Internet and related information technology raise, including promoting and encouraging self-regulation; and

WHEREAS, In September 1998, the federal Internet Tax Freedom Act was passed into law, which placed a temporary moratorium on certain types of Internet