

taxes, in order to give both federal and state governments time to research and develop comprehensive, consistent, and fair Internet taxation schemes; and

WHEREAS, In May 1998, Virginia established a Commission on Information Technology to study Internet issues and develop new standards for regulating Internet activities; and

WHEREAS, In December 1998, the Virginia Commission on Information Technology released a report outlining the Virginia Internet Policy Act, a comprehensive legislative scheme addressing Internet-related issues; and

WHEREAS, In order to remain competitive with other states in the fields of education, business, and government services, Maryland must address issues raised by the Internet, including user privacy, economic development utilizing the Internet, protocols for government and commercial transactions utilizing the Internet, and protocols for Internet crime; and

WHEREAS, Addressing these issues now will help prepare Maryland to meet the business, educational, and governmental needs of the next century, which will be dominated by the Internet and related information technology systems; now, therefore,

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

**Article - State Finance and Procurement**

~~2-707.~~

~~(A) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.~~

~~(B) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 21 MEMBERS:~~

~~(1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;~~

~~(2) THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;~~

~~(3) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION OR THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;~~

~~(4) THE SECRETARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;~~

~~(5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;~~

~~(6) THREE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;~~

~~(7) THREE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;~~