

(10) WORKING TO ELIMINATE THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS;

(11) PROVIDING A NETWORK THROUGH WHICH SERVICES PROVIDED BY STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS SERVING DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS CAN BE CHanneLED; AND

(12) PROMOTING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE, LOCAL, AND FEDERAL LAWS AND POLICIES PROTECTING AND SERVING DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS.

(C) THE OFFICE SHALL HOLD AT LEAST TWO PUBLIC TOWN HALL MEETINGS EACH YEAR TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON:

(1) THE QUALITY OF STATE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS AFFECTING DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS;

(2) THE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS OF THE OFFICE; AND

(3) ANY OTHER ISSUES THAT AFFECT DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING THOSE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

(D) THE OFFICE SHALL:

(1) HELP FACILITATE THE APPROPRIATE DELIVERY OF STATE, LOCAL, AND OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES TO DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS;

(2) ADVISE OTHER UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE NEEDS OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS;

(3) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE STATE BUDGET, PROVIDE ANY REASONABLE RESOURCES THAT ANY OTHER UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT REQUESTS TO SERVE OR ASSIST DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS; AND

(4) TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY DUPLICATION OF EFFORT, COORDINATE WITH OTHER UNITS OF THE STATE AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS.

9-2304.

(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING.

(B) (1) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF 16 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(2) OF THE 16 COUNCIL MEMBERS, AT LEAST FIVE OF THE MEMBERS SHALL BE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS.

(C) OF THE 16 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

(1) ONE SHALL BE THE SECRETARY OR A DESIGNEE FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;