

CHAPTER 39

(House Bill 179)

AN ACT concerning

Secretary of State - Responsibility for the Maryland Sister-State Relationship Program

FOR the purpose of transferring the responsibility for the Maryland sister-state relationship program from the Department of Business and Economic Development to the Office of the Secretary of State.

BY adding to

Article - State Government

Section 7-109

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development

Section 3-301

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - State Government

7-109.

THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ASSUME LEAD RESPONSIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIPS.

Article 83A - Department of Business and Economic Development

3-301.

(a) There is an Office of International Trade within the Department to promote the development of international business activities and opportunities for the citizens of this State.

(b) In furtherance of the purpose set forth in subsection (a) of this section, the Office shall:

(1) Encourage Maryland businesses to increase international trade activities, with special emphasis on exports, by: