on Pensions and the United States Presidential Special Envey to Sudan, by on or before a certain date; previding for the expiration of this Act under certain circumstances; providing for the termination of this Act under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to sanctions against the Republic of Sudan.

## BY adding to

Article - State Personnel and Pensions

Section 21-1A-01 through 21-1A-08 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 1A-Divestment from the Republic of Sudan" 21-123.1

Annotated Code of Maryland (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

## Preamble

WHEREAS, On July 23, 2004, the United States Congress declared that "the atrocities unfolding in Darfur, Sudan, are genocide"; and

WHEREAS, On September 9, 2004, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell told the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee that "genocide has occurred and may still be occurring in Darfur" and "the Government of Sudan and the Janjaweed bear responsibility"; and

WHEREAS, On September 21, 2004, addressing the United Nations General Assembly, President George W. Bush affirmed the Secretary of State's finding and stated, "at this hour, the world is witnessing terrible suffering and horrible crimes in the Darfur region of Sudan, crimes my government has concluded are genocide"; and

WHEREAS, On December 7, 2004, the United States Congress noted that the genecidal policy in Darfur has led to reports of "systematic rape of thousands of women and girls, the abduction of women and children, and the destruction of hundreds of ethnically African villages, including the poisoning of their wells and the plunder of their crops and eattle upon which the people of such villages sustain themselves"; and

WHEREAS, Also on December 7, 2004, the United States Congress found that "the Government of Sudan has restricted access by humanitarian and human rights workers to the Darfur-area through intimidation by military and security forces, and through bureaucratic and administrative obstruction, in an attempt to inflict the most devastating harm on those individuals displaced from their villages and homes without any means of sustenance or shelter"; and

WHEREAS, On September 25, 2006, the United States Congress reaffirmed that "the genocide unfolding in the Darfur region of Sudan is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, rape, and