

WHEREAS, Despite significant pressure from the United States government, the Republic of Sudan fails to take necessary actions to disassociate itself from its ties to terrorism and genocide; and

WHEREAS, Companies facing such widespread divestment supporting such ties with terrorism and genocide present further material risk to remaining investors of these companies; and

WHEREAS, It is a fundamental responsibility of the State to decide where, how, and by whom financial resources in its control should be invested, taking into account numerous pertinent factors; and

WHEREAS, It is the prerogative and desire of the State, in respect to investment resources in its control and to the extent reasonable, with due consideration for, among other things, return on investment, on behalf of itself and its investment beneficiaries, not to participate in an ownership or capital-providing capacity with entities that provide significant practical support for genocide, including certain international companies presently doing business in Sudan; and

WHEREAS, It is the judgment of the General Assembly that this Act should remain in effect only insofar as it continues to be consistent with, and does not unduly interfere with, the foreign policy of the United States as determined by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, It is the judgment of the General Assembly that ~~mandatory~~ divestment of public funds from certain companies is a measure that should be employed sparingly and judiciously – a United States Congressional and Presidential declaration of genocide satisfying this high threshold; now, therefore,

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

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

~~SUBTITLE 1A. DIVESTMENT FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN.~~

~~21-1A-01.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

~~(B) "ACTIVE BUSINESS OPERATIONS" MEANS ALL BUSINESS OPERATIONS THAT ARE NOT INACTIVE BUSINESS OPERATIONS.~~