

(c) The Authority is an independent unit in the Executive Branch of State government.

(D) THE EXERCISE BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE POWERS CONFERRED BY THIS SUBTITLE IS THE PERFORMANCE OF AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FUNCTION.

13-703.

(a) The Authority consists of 5 members, 1 OF WHOM SHALL BE NOMINATED BY THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. In making appointments to the Authority, the Governor shall ensure that: THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE ARE REPRESENTED.

(1) ~~[the] THE geographic areas of the State are represented; AND~~

(2) ~~AT LEAST 1 MEMBER IS A RESIDENT OF BALTIMORE CITY.~~

13-708.

In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the Authority may:

(6) APPOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEES COMPOSED OF LOCAL OFFICIALS, BUSINESS INTERESTS, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONVENTION, HOTEL, AND TOURISM BUSINESS, AND SUCH OTHER EXPERTS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE;

(7) REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROPOSED CONVENTION CENTER FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY CONVENTION CENTER, WITH RESPECT TO LOCATION, PURPOSE, DESIGN, FUNCTION, CAPACITY, PARKING, COSTS, FUNDING MECHANISMS, AND REVENUE ALTERNATIVES, WITH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS ON:

(I) THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR;

(II) THE TYPE OF SUPPORT FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR;

(III) SPECIAL TAXING SOURCES;

(IV) PROJECTED REVENUES;

(V) BONDING AUTHORITY AND THE SOURCE OF DEBT SERVICE; AND

(VI) THE FISCAL IMPACT ON THE STATE OF ANY ALTERNATIVES;