[(i)] 1. The average rate of unemployment for the most recent [18–month] 24–MONTH period for which data are available is greater than 150% of the average rate of unemployment for the entire State during that same period; or

[(ii)] 2. The average per capita personal income for the most recent 24–month period for which data are available is equal to or less than 67% of the average personal per capita income for the entire State during that same period.

(II) "QUALIFIED DISTRESSED COUNTY" INCLUDES A COUNTY, INCLUDING BALTIMORE CITY, THAT NO LONGER MEETS EITHER OF THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, BUT HAS DONE SO AT SOME TIME DURING THE PRECEDING 12–MONTH PERIOD.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Economic Development

1–101.

(e) (1) "Qualified distressed county" means a county with:

[(1)] (I) an average rate of unemployment for the most recent [18–month] 24–MONTH period for which data are available that exceeds 150% of the average rate of unemployment for the State during that period; or

[(2)] (II) an average per capita personal income for the most recent 24–month period for which data are available that is equal to or less than 67% of the average per capita personal income for the State during that period.

(2) "QUALIFIED DISTRESSED COUNTY" INCLUDES A COUNTY THAT:

(I) NO LONGER MEETS EITHER CRITERION STATED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION; BUT

(II) HAS MET AT LEAST ONE OF THE CRITERIA AT SOME TIME DURING THE PRECEDING 12–MONTH PERIOD.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on the taking effect of Chapter (H.B. 1050) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2008. If Section 2 of this Act takes effect, Section 1 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.