

(c) The chairman of the Commission shall be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

(d) The Commission shall review the report issued by Van de Water Consulting, Inc., hired by the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop an effective statewide framework for higher education funding as recommended in the 2004 Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education.

(e) The Commission shall review options and make recommendations relating to the establishment of a consistent and stable funding mechanism to ensure accessibility and affordability while at the same time promoting policies to achieve national eminence at all of Maryland's public institutions of higher education.

(f) The Commission shall review options and make recommendations relating to the appropriate level of funding for the State's Historically Black Institutions to ensure that they are comparable and competitive with other public institutions.

(g) The Commission shall **SUBMIT AN INTERIM** report **OF** its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2007.

(H) THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2008.

[(h)] (I) The staff for the Commission shall be provided and coordinated by the Department of Legislative Services. The Department of Budget and Management, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and the University System of Maryland shall also assign staff to assist the Commission.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 3 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006, and shall remain effective for a period of [1 year] **2 YEARS** and [10] 11 months and, at the end of [May 1, 2008] **JUNE 1, 2009**, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 3 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.