

HOUSE BILL 685

C8

4r2363
CF SB 516

By: **Delegates Harris and Chang**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Economic Development – Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission to
4 promote innovation in the fields of space exploration and commercial aerospace
5 opportunities; establishing the Maryland Aerospace and Technology Fund as a
6 special, nonlapsing fund; requiring interest earnings from the Fund to be credited to
7 the Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Aerospace and Technology
8 Commission.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Economic Development

11 Section 10–1101 through 10–1115 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11.
12 Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

16 Article – State Finance and Procurement

17 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

21 Article – State Finance and Procurement

22 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190.

23 Annotated Code of Maryland

24 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

25 BY adding to

26 Article – State Finance and Procurement

27 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)191.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

5 **Article – Economic Development**

6 **SUBTITLE 11. MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION.**

7 **10–1101.**

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

10 (B) “BOARD” MEANS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMISSION.

11 (C) “COLLABORATIVE” MEANS THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE RESEARCH
12 AND SPACE ECONOMY COLLABORATIVE.

13 (D) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY
14 COMMISSION.

15 (E) “FUND” MEANS THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY FUND.

16 (F) “INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION” MEANS AN EDUCATIONAL
17 INSTITUTION IN THE STATE THAT:

18 (1) BY LAW OR CHARTER:

19 (I) IS A PUBLIC OR NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION;
20 AND

21 (II) IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE:

22 1. A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION BEYOND THE HIGH
23 SCHOOL LEVEL AND AWARD A BACHELOR’S OR ADVANCED DEGREE; OR

24 2. A PROGRAM OF 2 OR MORE YEARS’ DURATION THAT IS
25 ACCEPTED FOR FULL CREDIT TOWARD A BACHELOR’S DEGREE; AND

26 (2) MEETS THE STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS THAT THE MARYLAND
27 HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION PRESCRIBES AND IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE A
28 CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA, OR DEGREE UNDER TITLE 12 OF THE EDUCATION

1 **ARTICLE.**

2 (G) "ZONE" MEANS THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY ZONE
3 DESIGNATED UNDER § 10-1110 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

4 **10-1102.**

5 (A) THERE IS A MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION.

6 (B) THE COMMISSION IS A BODY POLITIC AND CORPORATE AND IS A PUBLIC
7 INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE STATE.

8 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO PROMOTE INNOVATION IN
9 THE FIELDS OF SPACE EXPLORATION AND COMMERCIAL AEROSPACE
10 OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING THE INTEGRATION OF SPACE, AERONAUTICS, AND
11 AVIATION INDUSTRIES INTO THE ECONOMY OF THE STATE.

12 **10-1103.**

13 (A) A BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MANAGE THE COMMISSION AND
14 EXERCISE ITS POWERS.

15 (B) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

16 (1) THE SECRETARY, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

17 (2) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
18 THE SENATE, WHO SHALL SERVE AS AN EX OFFICIO NONVOTING MEMBER;

19 (3) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
20 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, WHO SHALL SERVE AS AN EX OFFICIO NONVOTING
21 MEMBER;

22 (4) THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
23 ADMINISTRATION'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER, OR THE DIRECTOR'S
24 DESIGNEE;

25 (5) THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
26 ADMINISTRATION'S WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

27 (6) THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
28 ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, OR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE;

1 **(7) THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,**
2 **OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;**

3 **(8) THE PRESIDENT OF THE GODDARD CONTRACTORS'**
4 **ASSOCIATION, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

5 **(9) THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND SPACE BUSINESS**
6 **ROUNDTABLE, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

7 **(10) THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE**
8 **PARK, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

9 **(11) THE DIRECTOR OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS APPLIED PHYSICS**
10 **LABORATORY, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;**

11 **(12) THE DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES FOR**
12 **RESEARCH IN ASTRONOMY, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;**

13 **(13) THE DIRECTOR OF THE SPACE TELESCOPE SCIENCE INSTITUTE,**
14 **OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE; AND**

15 **(14) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH**
16 **THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE:**

17 **(I) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE**
18 **MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY; AND**

19 **(II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY**
20 **INDUSTRY.**

21 **(C) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:**

22 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD;**
23 **BUT**

24 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
25 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

26 **(D) (1) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

27 **(2) THE TERMS OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS**
28 **REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS ON OCTOBER 1, 2024.**

1 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
2 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

3 **(4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
4 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**
5 **QUALIFIES.**

6 **(E) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED BY**
7 **THE GOVERNOR UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

8 **(2) THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE AN APPOINTED MEMBER FOR**
9 **INCOMPETENCE, MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE**
10 **POSITION.**

11 **(F) FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND**
12 **VICE CHAIR.**

13 **10-1104.**

14 **(A) (1) SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR, THE BOARD**
15 **SHALL APPOINT AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

16 **(2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE**
17 **BOARD.**

18 **(3) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE SALARY OF THE EXECUTIVE**
19 **DIRECTOR.**

20 **(B) (1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE**
21 **OFFICER OF THE COMMISSION.**

22 **(2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL MANAGE THE**
23 **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS AND TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION IN**
24 **ACCORDANCE WITH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT THE BOARD ESTABLISHES.**

25 **(C) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S**
26 **DESIGNEE, SHALL:**

27 **(1) ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD;**

28 **(2) ACT AS SECRETARY OF THE BOARD;**

29 **(3) KEEP MINUTES OF ALL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD;**

1 (4) APPROVE ALL SALARIES, PER DIEM PAYMENTS, AND ALLOWABLE
2 EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION, ITS EMPLOYEES, AND ITS CONSULTANTS;

3 (5) APPROVE ANY EXPENSES INCIDENTAL TO THE OPERATION OF THE
4 COMMISSION; AND

5 (6) PERFORM THE OTHER DUTIES THAT THE BOARD DIRECTS IN
6 CARRYING OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

7 **10-1105.**

8 (A) THE BOARD SHALL EMPLOY ANY ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL AND
9 CLERICAL STAFF AS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

10 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE
11 COMMISSION MAY ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
12 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE
13 COMMISSION BY INDIVIDUALS EMPLOYED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT'S DIVISION OF
14 BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

15 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL REIMBURSE THE DEPARTMENT FOR
16 ANY EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PROVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT BY
17 EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
18 SUBSECTION.

19 (C) THE BOARD MAY RETAIN CONSULTANTS AS NECESSARY.

20 **10-1106.**

21 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (B), (C), AND (E) OF THIS
22 SECTION, THE COMMISSION IS EXEMPT FROM TITLE 10 AND DIVISION II OF THE
23 STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

24 (B) (1) THE COMMISSION IS SUBJECT TO:

25 (I) THE PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT; AND

26 (II) THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

27 (2) FOR PURPOSES OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, A PROJECT SITE
28 VISIT OR EDUCATIONAL FIELD TOUR MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED A MEETING OF THE
29 COMMISSION IF NO ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED.

1 (C) THE BOARD, THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMISSION,
2 AND MEMBERS OF ANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTED ARE SUBJECT TO THE
3 PUBLIC ETHICS LAW.

4 (D) THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMISSION ARE NOT
5 SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION I OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND
6 PENSIONS ARTICLE THAT GOVERN THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

7 (E) (1) THE COMMISSION, THE BOARD, AND COMMISSION EMPLOYEES
8 ARE SUBJECT TO TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 4 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND
9 PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

10 (2) THE BOARD, THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE
11 COMMISSION, AND THE MEMBERS OF ANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTED SHALL
12 DISCLOSE TO THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION WHETHER THEY ARE EMPLOYED BY
13 OR HAVE A FINANCIAL INTEREST IN AN ENTITY THAT CURRENTLY HAS OR WILL
14 APPLY FOR FUNDS OR AN INVESTMENT IN A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE
15 COMMISSION.

16 10-1107.

17 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

18 (1) ESTABLISH THE APPROPRIATE STANDARDS AND EXECUTIVE
19 BODIES TO ENSURE THE PROPER USE OF FUNDS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
20 FOR RESEARCH;

21 (2) IDENTIFY RESEARCH AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR
22 ENTITIES IN THIS STATE THAT:

23 (I) STRENGTHEN AND ENHANCE THE STATE'S LEADERSHIP
24 POSITION IN CIVIL, COMMERCIAL, AND MILITARY AEROSPACE RESEARCH AND
25 DEVELOPMENT;

26 (II) INTEGRATE THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY INTO THE
27 ECONOMY OF THE STATE;

28 (III) CAPITALIZE, PROMOTE, AND ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT
29 OF WORKFORCE TRAINING TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF EMERGING
30 TECHNOLOGIES REQUIRED FOR ALL ASPECTS OF SPACE EXPLORATION; AND

31 (IV) DEVELOP PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS THAT ADVANCE

1 BOTH THE STATE'S AEROSPACE INDUSTRY AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY;

2 (3) ESTABLISH ADVISORY COMMITTEES AS NEEDED;

3 (4) PROCURE INSURANCE THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS
4 NECESSARY;

5 (5) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AEROSPACE-RELATED EDUCATIONAL
6 OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE STATE IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL EDUCATIONAL
7 INSTITUTIONS; AND

8 (6) EMPLOY AND ANNUALLY UPDATE THE STRATEGIC PLAN
9 DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-1108 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

10 (B) THE BOARD SHALL:

11 (1) DIRECT THE ACTIVITIES OF, ESTABLISH GOALS FOR, AND PROVIDE
12 OVERSIGHT TO THE COMMISSION; AND

13 (2) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACCORDANCE
14 WITH § 10-1108 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO IMPLEMENT THE GOALS OF THE COMMISSION.

15 (C) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL EMPLOY A CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER
16 TO MONITOR AND REPORT TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THIS
17 SUBTITLE.

18 (2) THE CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER SHALL ENSURE THAT GRANT
19 PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE
20 COMPLY WITH THE SUBTITLE AND ANY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE
21 COMMISSION BEFORE THOSE PROPOSALS ARE SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD FOR
22 CONSIDERATION.

23 10-1108.

24 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A
25 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE PROMOTION OF SPACE, AERONAUTICS, AND AVIATION
26 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE.

27 (B) THE STRATEGIC PLAN DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
28 SECTION SHALL INCLUDE A LIST OF POTENTIAL PROJECTS THAT FURTHER THE
29 PURPOSES OF THE COMMISSION AND, FOR EACH PROJECT, DESCRIBE:

30 (1) THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST FOR COMPLETION, INCLUDING A

1 POTENTIAL STATE MATCHING COST; AND

2 (2) AN ASSESSMENT OF THE AVAILABILITY OF EXTERNAL FUNDING
3 SOURCES.

4 (C) THE STRATEGIC PLAN DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
5 SECTION MAY INCLUDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION
6 DETERMINES TO BE RELEVANT TO FURTHERING THE PURPOSES OF THE
7 COMMISSION.

8 10-1109.

9 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "ELIGIBLE ENTITY" MEANS:

10 (1) A BUSINESS OR NONPROFIT INVOLVED IN SPACE EXPLORATION;

11 (2) A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY; OR

12 (3) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT CONDUCTS
13 AEROSPACE RESEARCH WITHIN THE STATE.

14 (B) THE COMMISSION MAY PROVIDE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES FOR
15 THE PURPOSE OF:

16 (1) DEVELOPMENT OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES REQUIRED FOR
17 ANY ASPECT OF HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT;

18 (2) RESEARCH INVOLVING SPACE EXPLORATION AND SPACE FLIGHT;

19 (3) WORKFORCE TRAINING TO PROMOTE SPACE EXPLORATION AND
20 SPACE FLIGHT; AND

21 (4) DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS
22 THAT ENHANCE THE STATE'S ABILITY TO COMPETE IN THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY.

23 (C) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE CONSISTENT
24 WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPED BY THE COMMISSION.

25 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ESTABLISH:

26 (1) A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION PROCESS;

27 (2) CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR MAKING AWARDS, INCLUDING

1 PRIVATE LEVERAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARDS; AND

2 (3) PROCESSES AND METRICS FOR MONITORING THE SUCCESS AND
3 IMPACT OF AWARDS.

4 10-1110.

5 (A) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION
6 SHALL DESIGNATE A MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY ZONE WITHIN THE
7 STATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENCOURAGING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT,
8 FACILITATING LAND ACQUISITION, PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND
9 PROMOTING THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE.

10 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE.

11 10-1111.

12 (A) THERE IS A MARYLAND AEROSPACE RESEARCH AND SPACE ECONOMY
13 COLLABORATIVE.

14 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE COLLABORATIVE IS TO ADVISE THE COMMISSION
15 AND RECOMMEND AND PROMOTE ACTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PARTNERSHIP
16 WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WITHIN THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND
17 TECHNOLOGY ZONE DESIGNATED UNDER § 10-1110 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18 (C) THE COLLABORATIVE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

19 (1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION, OR THE
20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

21 (2) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
22 THE SENATE;

23 (3) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
24 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

25 (4) THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
26 ADMINISTRATION'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER, OR THE DIRECTOR'S
27 DESIGNEE;

28 (5) THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
29 ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, OR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE;

1 **(6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF**
2 **INVESTIGATION, DESIGNATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF**
3 **INVESTIGATION;**

4 **(7) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, OR THE**
5 **COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S DESIGNEE;**

6 **(8) THE MANAGER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, OR THE MANAGER'S**
7 **DESIGNEE;**

8 **(9) THE MANAGER OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, OR THE**
9 **MANAGER'S DESIGNEE;**

10 **(10) THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE**
11 **PARK, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

12 **(11) THE PRESIDENT OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COMMUNITY**
13 **COLLEGE, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

14 **(12) THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**
15 **PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, OR THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE; AND**

16 **(13) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:**

17 **(I) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GODDARD CONTRACTORS'**
18 **ASSOCIATION;**

19 **(II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER GROUP**
20 **WITHIN THE ZONE; AND**

21 **(III) A MEMBER OF THE AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING**
22 **INDUSTRY.**

23 **(D) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION SHALL CHAIR THE**
24 **COLLABORATIVE.**

25 **(E) THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COLLABORATIVE.**

26 **(F) A MEMBER OF THE COLLABORATIVE:**

27 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
28 **COLLABORATIVE; BUT**

1 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
2 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

3 **(G) (1) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

4 **(2) THE TERMS OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS**
5 **REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS ON OCTOBER 1, 2024.**

6 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
7 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

8 **(4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
9 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**
10 **QUALIFIES.**

11 **(H) THE COLLABORATIVE SHALL DEVELOP PLANS TO:**

12 **(1) IMPROVE LOCAL AEROSPACE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**
13 **WITHIN THE ZONE;**

14 **(2) UPGRADE AND IMPROVE PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**
15 **SURROUNDING:**

16 **(I) THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC**
17 **ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS;**

18 **(II) THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE**
19 **ADMINISTRATION'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER; AND**

20 **(III) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK;**

21 **(3) ENSURE THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM LOCAL**
22 **AEROSPACE LEADERS IS ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TO THE LOCAL**
23 **COMMUNITY;**

24 **(4) WORK WITH BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS WITHIN THE ZONE TO**
25 **DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO CONNECT THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS**
26 **AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER TO THE**
27 **SURROUNDING COMMUNITY; AND**

28 **(5) ASSESS AND IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY WITHIN ALL AREAS OF THE**
29 **ZONE.**

1 (I) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND EVERY 2 YEARS THEREAFTER,
2 THE COLLABORATIVE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT OF THE PLANS DEVELOPED UNDER
3 SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION TO THE COMMISSION.

4 10-1112.

5 (A) THERE IS A MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY FUND IN THE
6 COMMISSION.

7 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO PROMOTE THE
8 GROWTH OF THE SPACE EXPLORATION AND AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES
9 IN THE STATE IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE COMMISSION'S STRATEGIC
10 PLAN.

11 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

12 (D) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
13 SUBJECT TO REVERSION UNDER § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND
14 PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

15 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,
16 AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

17 (E) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

18 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;

19 (2) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND

20 (3) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR
21 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

22 (F) THE COMMISSION MAY USE THE FUND TO:

23 (1) AWARD GRANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-1109 OF THIS
24 SUBTITLE; AND

25 (2) PAY THE COSTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE AND
26 TO ADMINISTER THE FUND.

27 (G) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN
28 APPROPRIATION TO THE FUND.

1 **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
2 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

3 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
4 **THE FUND.**

5 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**
6 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

7 **10-1113.**

8 **THE COMMISSION IS EXEMPT FROM STATE AND LOCAL TAXES.**

9 **10-1114.**

10 **THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE COMMISSION ARE SUBJECT TO AUDIT:**

11 **(1) AT ANY TIME BY THE STATE; AND**

12 **(2) EACH YEAR BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR.**

13 **10-1115.**

14 **(A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL**
15 **SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE MARYLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
16 **COMMISSION, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT**
17 **ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

18 **(B) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE A COMPLETE OPERATING AND FINANCIAL**
19 **STATEMENT AND SUMMARIZE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE**
20 **PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR.**

21 **(C) IN ADDITION TO THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)**
22 **OF THIS SECTION, THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:**

23 **(1) A REVIEW OF EACH GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE**
24 **COMMISSION DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER**
25 **THE GRANT APPLICATION WAS FUNDED BY THE COMMISSION OR WITHDRAWN AFTER**
26 **SUBMISSION; AND**

27 **(2) A REVIEW OF THE GRANT-FUNDED ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY**
28 **EACH GRANT RECIPIENT.**

1 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

2 6–226.

3 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless
4 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the
5 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the
6 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to
7 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General
8 Fund of the State.

9 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply
10 to the following funds:

11 189. the Teacher Retention and Development Fund; [and]

12 190. the Protecting Against Hate Crimes Grant Fund; AND

13 **191. THE MARYLAND AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY**
14 **FUND.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
16 appointed members of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Aerospace and Technology
17 Commission shall expire as follows:

18 (1) one member in 2025; and

19 (2) one member in 2026.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
21 appointed members of the Maryland Aerospace Research and Space Economy Collaborative
22 shall expire as follows:

23 (1) one member in 2025;

24 (2) one member in 2026; and

25 (3) one member in 2027.

26 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Aerospace and
27 Technology Commission shall hire a consultant to advise the Commission during the first
28 2 years of the Commission’s existence to aid in the development and implementation of the
29 strategic plan described under § 10–1108 of the Economic Development Article, as enacted
30 by Section 1 of this Act.

31 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2024.

