

Chapter 10

(Senate Bill 31)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Commission

FOR the purpose of reestablishing the Statewide Empowerment Zones for Seniors Commission as the Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Commission to continue the work of the Statewide Empowerment Zones for Seniors Commission; providing for the membership of the Commission; authorizing the Commission to consult with certain individuals and entities; requiring the Secretary of Aging to perform certain duties; requiring the Commission to assist in the implementation of certain recommendations; requiring the Department of Aging to staff the Commission; providing that a member of the Commission may receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Commission to be funded with federal funds; prohibiting the use of certain funds to pay any costs of the Commission; stating the intent of the General Assembly; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Commission.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

- (a) There is a Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Commission.
- (b) The Commission consists of the following members:
 - (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
 - (3) the Secretary of Aging, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (4) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (5) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (6) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

- (7) the Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
- (8) one representative from local government;
- (9) one representative from the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging;
- (10) two representatives from providers of senior services;
- (11) two representatives from senior advocacy organizations;
- (12) one representative from a neighborhood or community organization;
- (13) one representative from a trade association whose members provide services to seniors;
- (14) one consumer member at least 60 years old; and
- (15) one representative from an academic institution who has expertise in aging studies or a related field.

(c) In performing its duties, the Commission may consult with individuals and entities that the Secretary of Aging considers appropriate.

(d) The Secretary of Aging shall:

- (1) chair the Commission;
- (2) appoint the nondesignated membership of the Commission; and
- (3) establish subcommittees and appoint subcommittee chairs as necessary to facilitate the work of the Commission.

(e) To the extent practicable, the members appointed to the Commission shall reasonably reflect the geographic, racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of this State.

(f) The Commission shall assist in the implementation of the recommendations made in the "Report of the Statewide Empowerment Zones for Seniors Commission" submitted on July 1, 2009, in accordance with Chapters 511 and 512 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2007.

(g) (1) The Department of Aging shall provide staff support to the Commission.

(2) A member of the Commission may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Commission shall be funded with federal funds.

(ii) Funding provided in the State budget or under any federal program to assist naturally occurring retirement communities may not be used to pay any costs of the Commission.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the appointees to the Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Commission be those individuals who formerly were appointed to the Statewide Empowerment Zones for Seniors Commission established under Chapters 511 and 512 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2007 and who were serving on the Commission as of September 29, 2009.

SECTION 3. 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 ye 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. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year from the date it is enacted and, at the end of the 1-year period, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, April 13, 2010.