

1 (e) "Council" means the Maryland Advisory Council on Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and  
2 Hard of Hearing Individuals.

3 (o) "Office" means the Office of the Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and Hard of Hearing.  
4 9-2402.

5 (a) In the Office of the Governor, there is an Office of the Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and  
6 Hard of Hearing.

7 9-2404.

8 (a) There is a Maryland Advisory Council on the Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and Hard of  
9 Hearing.

10 (b) (1) The Council consists of [18] members appointed by the Governor, with  
11 the advice and consent of the Senate.

12 (2) Of the [18] Council members, at least five of the members shall be deaf  
13 and hard of hearing individuals.

14 (c) Of the [18] Council members:

15 (1) one shall be the State Superintendent or a designee from the State  
16 Department of Education;

17 (2) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Maryland Department  
18 of Health;

19 (3) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Department of Human  
20 Services;

21 (4) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Department of  
22 Transportation;

23 (5) one shall be from the Commission on Civil Rights;

24 (6) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Maryland Department  
25 of Labor;

26 (7) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Department of  
27 Housing and Community Development;

28 (8) one shall be the Superintendent or a designee from the Maryland School  
29 for the Deaf;

1           (9) one shall be the Secretary or a designee from the Department of Aging;  
2 [and]

3           (10) ONE SHALL BE THE SECRETARY OR A DESIGNEE FROM THE  
4 DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES; AND

5           (11) nine shall be from the general public.

6           (d) (1) The nine members from the general public shall be chosen from  
7 different geographical areas of the State.

8           (2) Of the nine members from the general public:

9                   (i) five shall be deaf and hard of hearing individuals;

10                   (ii) one shall be a private citizen with special knowledge or expertise  
11 relating to services to deaf and hard of hearing individuals;

12                   (iii) one shall be a parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child;

13                   (iv) one shall be from a private agency providing services to deaf and  
14 hard of hearing individuals; and

15                   (v) one shall be a person with special knowledge or expertise relating  
16 to services to individuals who are deafblind.

17 10-1103.1.

18           (c) The Advisory Group shall include:

19                   (2) the Director of the Office of the Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and Hard of  
20 Hearing, or the Director's designee;

21                                   **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

22 29-304.

23           An individual shall have immediate vesting rights on taking office in the State  
24 system in which the individual is a member if the individual is the:

25                   (10) Director of the Office of the Deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and Hard of Hearing;

26                                   **Article – Transportation**

27 7-1109.