

eases; the State Advisory Council on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders; the State Advisory Council on High Blood Pressure and Related Cardiovascular Risk Factors; and the State Advisory Council on Physical Fitness.

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
ARTHRITIS & RELATED DISEASES**

Vacancy, *Chairperson*
(410) 225-6505

The State Advisory Council on Arthritis and Related Diseases originated as the State Commission on Arthritis and Related Diseases in 1985 (Chapter 250, Acts of 1985). In 1992, the Council received its present name and was placed under the Local and Family Health Administration (Chapter 71, Acts of 1992). The Council coordinates the activities of public and private agencies, medical schools, and related professional groups to improve the quality of life for arthritic individuals and their families. The Council makes recommendations to limit costs associated with arthritis prevention and treatment, and vocational training, as well as to improve services. The Council also develops and coordinates programs in vocational rehabilitation and industry to help arthritic individuals remain productive in the work force.

Through studies and proposals, the Council seeks to form an integrated State program of education and applied research in gerontology and geriatrics. The development of a strategic plan of patient education throughout Maryland is coordinated by the Council. The plan involves State and local health departments, private agencies, pharmaceutical companies, medical schools, and professional organizations.

The Council's fifteen members are appointed by the Governor, who designates the chairperson. Members serve four-year terms (Code Health—General Article, secs. 13-501 through 13-506).

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
HEREDITARY & CONGENITAL DISORDERS**

Peter B. Hirtle, *Chairperson*, 1994
(410) 225-6505

The State Advisory Council on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders originated in 1973 as the Commission on Hereditary Disorders (Chapter 695, Acts of 1973). In 1986, it was renamed the State Commission on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders (Chapter 740, Acts of 1986). In 1992, it received its present name and was placed under the Local and Family Health Administration (Chapter 71, Acts of 1992).

The Council gathers and disseminates information on the treatment of hereditary and congenital disorders in the State. It also establishes and promulgates rules, regulations, and standards for the detection and management of these disorders. On

a continuous basis, it evaluates the need for and efficiency of relevant State programs. For the public and providers of health services, the Council also institutes and supervises educational programs and counseling on hereditary and congenital disorders, their treatment and prevention.

The Council is composed of eleven voting members and five ex officio nonvoting members. Voting members include nine members appointed by the Governor, one senator appointed by the Senate President, and one delegate appointed by the House Speaker. Five members are not health professionals nor involved in the administration or ownership of any health care institution or health insurance organization, nor the spouse of a health professional, administrator, or owner. Four members are professionals in the field of hereditary and congenital disorders. One of the professional members is appointed from a list submitted by the Monumental City Medical Society, the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland, the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and the faculties of The Johns Hopkins University Medical Institutions. If the list is not submitted, members are appointed at the Governor's sole discretion. Members serve four-year terms.

The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene appoints five ex officio, nonvoting members of the Council. One represents the State Health Resources Planning Commission and four represent the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Code Health—General Article, secs. 13-103 through 13-109).

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE & RELATED
CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS**

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The State Advisory Council on High Blood Pressure and Related Cardiovascular Risk Factors originated as the Commission on High Blood Pressure in 1976 (Chapter 792, Acts of 1976). It became the State Commission on High Blood Pressure and Related Cardiovascular Risk Factors in 1986 (Chapter 486, Acts of 1986). In 1992, it was reorganized under its present name and placed under the Local and Family Health Administration (Chapter 71, Acts of 1992).

The Council establishes guidelines to manage and treat high blood pressure and related cardiovascular risk factors. The Council also develops and promotes educational programs to prevent and treat these conditions.

The Council's sixteen members are appointed by the Governor for terms of four years. Ten members are chosen from lists of qualified individuals submitted by the American Heart Association—Maryland Affiliate; the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland; the Maryland Conference of Health Officers; the Department of Health and