

(A) The Council shall have the power and authority necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon it by this subtitle and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Economic and Community Development, including but not limited to the following:

[(a)] (1) Continuing all programs and activities and assuming all assets, liabilities, contracts, leases and other such obligations of the body formerly known as the Governor's Council on the Arts in Maryland.

[(b)] (2) Adopting reasonable rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of this subtitle.

[(c)] Employing an executive director and an assistant director both of which are unclassified positions and such administrative, technical, consultative and other personnel as it deems appropriate at such salaries as may be provided in the annual State budget.]

[(d)] (3) Entering into contracts and agreements.

[(e)] (4) Engaging services.

[(f)] (5) Requesting and obtaining from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the State, such assistance and data as will enable it properly to carry out its powers and duties hereunder.

[(g)] (6) Accepting any federal funds granted by act of Congress or by executive order for any and all of the purposes of this subtitle.

[(h)] (7) Accepting any gifts, donations or bequests for any or all of the purposes of this subtitle.

(B) THE COUNCIL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, SHALL APPOINT, FROM WITHOUT ITS MEMBERS, AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL.

(C) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL, SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND SHALL BE AN UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

(D) SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND POLICIES SET FORTH BY THE COUNCIL AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OF THE SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL:

(1) BE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE COUNCIL STAFF;

(2) DIRECT, ADMINISTER, AND SUPERVISE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL STAFF; AND