

## Colleges and Universities

FOR the purpose of providing that the General Assembly of Maryland recognize the historically black colleges and universities as an inseparable part of Maryland's diverse higher education system; providing that the General Assembly is committed to collective development and enhancement of black institutions; and supporting the historically black institutions of higher education, and pledging effective appropriate means for enhancing and improving the black institutions.

WHEREAS, Maryland's historically black colleges and universities have been for more than a century a distinguished part of this State's system of postsecondary education. They represent a mixture of land grant and liberal arts curricula, and offer the full spectrum of degrees from the bachelor to the doctoral level. Traditionally these institutions have served low and moderate income students. The overwhelming majority of minority students are enrolled and graduate from these institutions. As the economy contracts, and changes in State priorities are evidenced, this group of institutions stands to be disproportionately affected in terms of their continuing to be a viable and competitive part of the higher educational enterprise in the State and more generally, the nation; and

WHEREAS, The 4 year historically black institutions of the State of Maryland - University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Morgan State University, Bowie State College, and Coppin State College, collectively provide educational opportunities for a majority of the minority students enrolled in Maryland's 4 year institutions; and

WHEREAS, During the past century the historically black institutions have educated a larger percentage of the black population than other institutions, have prepared a substantial number of its graduates for advance and professional training, have given its graduates an opportunity for upward mobility, and have continued to contribute to the economic well-being of the State by employing a substantial number of the State's citizens, and by providing qualified graduates to fulfill career opportunities in the public and private sector; and

WHEREAS, The Each of Maryland's public institutions of higher education has needs for increased funds for faculty salaries and facilities, and the historically black institutions, because of past funding practices, reflect deficiencies in facilities, equipment, and instructional materials beyond those at other 4 year public institutions in the State; and