§ 10-502 Definitions.

(a) In general. — In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) Administrative function. — (1) "Administrative function" means the administration of:
   (i) a law of the State;
   (ii) a law of a political subdivision of the State; or
   (iii) a rule, regulation, or bylaw of a public body.
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(2) “Administrative function” does not include:
   (i) an advisory function;
   (ii) a judicial function;
   (iii) a legislative function;
   (iv) a quasi-judicial function; or
   (v) a quasi-legislative function.

(c) Advisory function.—“Advisory function” means the study of a matter of public concern or the making of recommendations on the matter, under a delegation of responsibility by:
   (1) law;
   (2) the Governor or an official who is subject to the policy direction of the Governor;
   (3) the chief executive officer of a political subdivision of the State or an official who is subject to the policy direction of the chief executive officer; or
   (4) formal action by or for a public body that exercises an administrative, judicial, legislative, quasi-judicial, or quasi-legislative function.

(d) Board.—“Board” means the State Open Meetings Law Compliance Board.

(e) Judicial function.—(1) “Judicial function” means the exercise of any power of the Judicial Branch of the State government.
   (2) “Judicial function” includes the exercise of:
      (i) a power for which Article IV, § 1 of the Maryland Constitution provides:
      (ii) a function of a grand jury;
      (iii) a function of a petit jury;
      (iv) a function of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities; and
      (v) a function of a judicial nominating commission.
   (3) “Judicial function” does not include the exercise of rulemaking power by a court.

(f) Legislative function.—“Legislative function” means the process or act of:
   (1) approving, disapproving, enacting, amending, or repealing a law or other measure to set public policy;
   (2) approving or disapproving an appointment;
   (3) proposing or ratifying a constitution or constitutional amendment; or
   (4) proposing or ratifying a charter or charter amendment.

(g) Meet.—“Meet” means to convene a quorum of a public body for the consideration or transaction of public business.

(h) Public body.—(1) “Public body” means an entity that:
      (i) consists of at least 2 individuals; and
      (ii) is created by:
         1. the Maryland Constitution;
         2. a State statute;
         3. a county or municipal charter;
         4. an ordinance;
         5. a rule, resolution, or bylaw;
         6. an executive order of the Governor; or
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7. an executive order of the chief executive authority of a political subdivision of the State.
   (2) “Public body” includes:
   (i) any multimember board, commission, or committee appointed by the Governor or the chief executive authority of a political subdivision of the State, or appointed by an official who is subject to the policy direction of the Governor or chief executive authority of the political subdivision, if the entity includes in its membership at least 2 individuals not employed by the State or the political subdivision:
      (ii) any multimember board, commission, or committee that:
            1. is appointed by:
               A. an entity in the Executive branch of State government, the members of which are appointed by the Governor, and that otherwise meets the definition of a public body under this subsection; or
               B. an official who is subject to the policy direction of an entity described in item A of this item; and
            2. includes in its membership at least 2 individuals who are not members of the appointing entity or employed by the State; and
      (iii) the Maryland School for the Blind.
   (3) “Public body” does not include:
      (i) any single member entity;
      (ii) any judicial nominating commission;
      (iii) any grand jury;
      (iv) any petit jury;
      (v) the Appalachian States Low Level Radioactive Waste Commission established in § 7-302 of the Environment Article;
      (vi) except when a court is exercising rulemaking power, any court established in accordance with Article IV of the Maryland Constitution;
      (vii) the Governor’s cabinet, the Governor’s Executive Council as provided in Title 8, Subtitle 1 of this article, or any committee of the Executive Council;
      (viii) a local government’s counterpart to the Governor’s cabinet, Executive Council, or any committee of the counterpart of the Executive Council;
      (ix) except as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection, a subcommittee of a public body as defined under paragraph (2)(i) of this subsection;
      (x) the governing body of a hospital as defined in § 19-301 of the Health-General Article; and
      (xi) a self-insurance pool that is established in accordance with Title 19, Subtitle 6 of the Insurance Article or § 9-404 of the Labor and Employment Article by:
            1. a public entity, as defined in § 19-602 of the Insurance Article; or
            2. a county or municipal corporation, as defined in § 9-404 of the Labor and Employment Article.
   (i) Quasi-judicial function. — “Quasi-judicial function” means a determination of:
      (1) a contested case to which Subtitle 2 of this title applies;
      (2) a proceeding before an administrative agency for which Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules would govern judicial review; or
(3) a complaint by the Board in accordance with this subtitle.

(j) Quasi-立法ive function. — "Quasi-立法ive function" means the process or act of:

(1) adopting, disapproving, amending, or repealing a rule, regulation, or bylaw that has the force of law, including a rule of a court;

(2) approving, disapproving, or amending a budget; or

(3) approving, disapproving or amending a contract.

(k) Quorum. — "Quorum" means:

(1) a majority of the members of a public body; or


Effect of amendments. — Chapter 643, Acts 2007, effective July 1, 2007, added "or an official . . . the Governor" in (c)(2) and added "or an official . . . executive officer" in (c)(3)

Chapter 60, Acts 2009, enacted April 14, 2009, and effective from date of enactment, substituted "administrative" for "executive" in (c)(4), and added "or municipal" in (h)(3)(c)

Chapter 164, Acts 2009, effective October 1, 2009, added (h)(3)(d), redesignated accordingly and made related changes.

Editor's note. — Pursuant to § 7 of ch. 5, Acts 2007, § 19-303(g) in (h)(3)(a), following the redesignations made pursuant to § 6, ch. 25, Acts 2004

Section 4, ch. 60, Acts 2009, approved April 14, 2009, and effective from date of enactment, provided that the "public body" for the purposes of Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act is Andy's Ice Cream, Inc. v. City of Salisbury, 125 Md. App. 125. 724 A.2d 717 (1999), cert. denied. 353 Md. 473, 727 A.2d 382 (1999).

Applicability of Act to city's private development corporation. — City of Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is, in essence, a public body for the purposes of the Open Meetings Act, § 10-501et seq. of this subtitle, and it is an instrumentality of Baltimore City for the purposes of Maryland's Public Information Act (MPIA), § 10-602et seq. of this title. Though a private corporation, the BDC functioned as part of the City's exercise of its eminent domain powers and, therefore, constituted a public body and, since the MPIA did not require an entity be established by a statute for it to be subject to its provisions, the BDC was found to clearly act as an instrumentality of the City, therefore, the provisions of the MPIA applied to it. City of Balt. Dev. Corp. v. Carmel Realty Assocs., 395 Md. 299, 910 A.2d 406 (2006).

University task force. — University task force relating to academics and student ath-