EXECUTIVE ORDER  
01.01.2015.20

Regulatory Reform Commission

WHEREAS, Cultivating more robust economic growth, business development, and job creation requires reforming Maryland's regulatory climate;

WHEREAS, Maryland's business community is a partner in the State's economic success and benefits when it operates under a simple, fair, transparent and accountable regulatory climate;

WHEREAS, Maryland's regulatory process should be built upon a foundation of collaboration and a culture of customer service that focuses on compliance, where agencies work in partnership with their regulated communities; and

WHEREAS, A reformed regulatory climate will serve the State's interest in protecting the health, welfare, and safety of all Marylanders while fostering economic prosperity in Maryland.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. The establishment of the Regulatory Reform Commission (Commission).

B. Membership.

(1) The Commission shall consist of the following:

(a) The Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve as an ex-officio member; and
(b) Up to twelve public members to be appointed by the Governor with a range of experience in various economic sectors. The public members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(2) The Commission shall reflect the diversity of the population of the State.

(3) Staff members from the Offices of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be regular participants.

(4) Other State agencies and their staffs may be asked to participate at the invitation of the Lieutenant Governor.

C. Duties.

(1) The Commission shall undertake a comprehensive review of Maryland’s regulatory climate which will include:

(a) Identifying the areas of Maryland’s regulatory climate that pose the greatest barriers and burdens to job attraction, retention, and creation.

(b) Formulating substantive solutions to identified problems that will remove barriers and alleviate burdens to business attraction and retention in the State of Maryland.

(c) Reviewing and analyzing regulations in the following sectors:

(i) Transportation;

(ii) Environment and Land Use;

(iii) Health Care;

(iv) Business Occupations and Licensing;

(v) Banking and Financial Services;

(vi) Capital Formation;

(vii) Insurance;

(viii) Labor and Employment;
(ix) Agriculture;

(x) Tourism; and

(xi) Any other sectors deemed necessary by the Governor.

(2) The Commission shall develop and submit its recommendations for improvement to Maryland’s regulatory climate in an annual written report to the Governor, no later than December 1st of each year, with the final report due December 1, 2017.

D. Procedures.

(1) The Lieutenant Governor shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Commission. The Lieutenant Governor shall oversee the implementation of this Executive Order.

(2) There shall be two Co-chairs appointed by the Governor from among the Commission members. The Co-chairs shall:

(a) Develop a strategy to execute the duties of this Executive Order and administer the work of the Commission;

(b) Determine the Commission’s agenda; and

(c) Identify additional support as needed.

(3) The Commission shall conduct public meetings in various regions of the State to study the impact of Maryland’s regulatory climate on the business community, other relevant stakeholders, and the public.

(4) The Commission shall meet as frequently as necessary to meet the deadlines established by this Executive Order.

(5) A majority of the Commission members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

(6) The Commission may adopt other procedures to ensure the orderly transaction of business.
E. All State agencies, departments, boards and commissions within the Executive Branch are authorized and directed to coordinate with the Commission in implementing the provisions of this Executive Order.

F. This Executive Order shall remain effective for a period of three years and, on July 9, 2018, with no further action required by the Governor, this Executive Order shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 9th Day of July, 2015.

[Signature]

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:

John C. Wobensmith
Secretary of State