



# The State of Maryland

## Executive Department

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2017.24

#### Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission

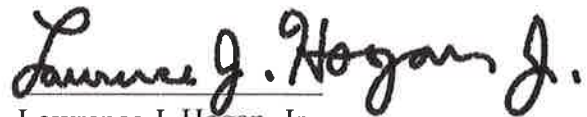
- WHEREAS, Maryland's treasured and diverse natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Chesapeake Bay to the Appalachian Mountains, are a significant part of the State's brand identity, economy and quality of life;
- WHEREAS, The outdoor recreation economy in Maryland generates 109,000 direct jobs, \$951 million in state and local tax revenue, \$4.4 billion in wages and salaries and \$14 billion in consumer spending;
- WHEREAS, Providing improved access to world-class outdoor activities, such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, paddling, boating, fishing, hunting, camping, swimming, wildlife-viewing, and visitation to historic sites, will support economic investment in the State's outdoor recreation industry and nature and heritage tourism economies;
- WHEREAS, Careful and thoughtful stewardship of the State's natural heritage and rich history is a critical responsibility necessary to protect the quality of life of its citizenry and future generations; and
- WHEREAS, Greater engagement of the outdoor recreation industry as well as other private and public stakeholders will strengthen the State's efforts to attract and retain businesses that rely on and value Maryland's tremendous outdoor and heritage resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER INVESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

- A. Established. There is hereby established the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission to advise and make recommendations to the Governor on actions that will strengthen the outdoor economy and Maryland.
- B. Membership. The Commission shall be comprised of seventeen (17) members to be appointed by the Governor and who will serve at the pleasure at the Governor, including:
  - 1) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or the Secretary's designee;
  - 2) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce or the Secretary's designee;
  - 3) Representatives from three companies within Maryland's outdoor recreation manufacturing and retail industries;
  - 4) Representatives from three companies representing small businesses that provide outdoor recreation services;
  - 5) Representatives from three nonprofit organizations related to outdoor recreation;
  - 6) Three local elected officials; and
  - 7) Three citizen members with experience in economic development, planning, tourism, and/or marketing.
- C. Chair. The Commission shall be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce. Their designees may, at the request of the Secretaries, serve as acting co-chairs.
- D. Committees. The Commission may, in its discretion, establish working committees to support its mission, drawing committee members from any agency or department of State government or private / non-profit organization.
- E. Staff. The Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Commerce shall provide administrative and staff support to the Commission.
- F. Purpose. The Commission shall develop recommendations and an action plan to strengthen and enhance:


- 1) The business climate for the outdoor recreation industry so as to retain and grow Maryland jobs and Maryland's economy;
  - 2) Maryland's brand as a premier destination for outdoor recreation and heritage tourism;
  - 3) Development of world-class outdoor and heritage tourism experiences;
  - 4) Stewardship of Maryland's natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources; and
  - 5) Opportunities for workforce development and job creation in the outdoor recreation industry.
- G. The Commission shall provide an interim report to the Governor by December 1, 2018 and a final report by December 1, 2019.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland in the City of Annapolis, this 13th Day of October, 2017.



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor

ATTEST:



John C. Wobensmith  
Secretary of State