

BY-LAWS OF CONCERNED FAMILIES OF MARYLAND COALITION

Final Revision - August 1999

ARTICLE I - NAME

The Name Of This Organization Shall Be The: CONCERNED FAMILIES OF MARYLAND COALITION

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purpose of this organization is to act as a voice for its membership and the larger community of Southern Maryland in the State of Maryland; to cooperate with and encourage like minded legislators within the State Legislature and all other appropriate governmental bodies, political organization, faith groups and community organizations in each of the Southern Maryland counties; to establish and operate a faith based community organization for Charles, St. Mary's and other surrounding Counties of Southern Maryland; to review current social, moral, media and political issues and legislation that impacts the families of Southern Maryland and the State of Maryland; develop methods to and/or take action on these issues with respect to the political, religious and moral principals we as a community hold dear; to seek out, recruit and register voters who hold morally sound and Biblically based ethical values; to secure the election of all duly nominated moral candidates to public service; coordinate and assist with all appropriate faith based and conservative political activities in Southern Maryland; inform the voting populist and raise the necessary funds to assist in carrying out the above named activities; promote sound legislation that is reflective of the principles and objectives of the coalition.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP: There shall be two types of membership allowed: **A.** General membership is open to all individuals who have been recommended for membership by two active members of the Coalition and duly approved as defined in Article IV. **B.** Congregational/governmental/organizational membership reserved for those groups which have been recommended by two active members of the Coalition and approved as defined in Article IV.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS: A proposed member must be eighteen or over and a resident of one of the Southern Maryland counties. A proposed member should professes a conservative moral ideology consistent with this membership and hold a fundamental belief in the written word of Holy Scripture (i.e. the Bible). Governmental /organizational members must be of conservative moral ideology and fundamental in their belief and uphold those standards and doctrines as set forth in the Old and New Testament.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. RULING BODY: A Board of Directors and Executive Committee will run this Coalition. The Board of Directors will consist of no more than 11 members. The Board of Directors itself will have the authority to increase or decrease its number by appropriately amending these by-laws in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. Each Board member will be elected by the general membership for a period of two (2) years. The Chairman may succeed himself/herself for no more than 5 consecutive terms (10 years). The Executive Committee will consist of the positions under SECTION 2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. Elections for Board membership and the Chairman will occur in November of the even numbered years. Vacancies on the Board for un-expired term (due to a

Board member leaving) may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. **General membership:** For individual membership to occur an individual must be recommended by two standing members of the Board of Directors and approved by the Executive Committee. **Congregational/governmental/organizational membership:** May occur when two standing members make a recommendation to the Board of Directors. Approved by the Chairman and approved by majority vote of the Coalition membership.

Each new congregational/governmental/organizational member, will have the option of selecting up to two of its members for representation and positions in the Coalition.

SECTION 2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

Executive Committee can consist of up to 8 Members:

- President (Chairman)
- Vice President (Vice Chairman)
- Coalition Secretary
- Treasure
- Ministerial Leader

The Board of Directors will consist of up to 11 Members:

- One (by Election) President (Chairman)
- One (by Election) Vice President (Vice Chairman)
- One (by Election) Coalition Secretary
- One (by Election) Treasure
- Six (by Election) Coalition Directors
- One (Appointed by Chairman, Member of GBC) Ministerial Leader

General Membership will consist of the general membership: Individual members may speak for the Coalition only when approved by the Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Chairman.

SECTION 3. OFFICERS OF THE BOARD: The Board of Directors will be elected every two years by the general membership at the November meeting (in an even ending year) in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. The President (Chairman) and Vice President shall be elected by the new Board of Directors and must have served on the Board for at least one year prior to his/her appointment by the Board. Vice President will assist the President in all necessary activities, appoint committees and conduct meeting and all business necessary in the absence of the Chairman.

SECRETARY: Will record and distribute all minutes from each meeting and perform other pertinent business in a timely fashion.

TREASURER: Will handle all finances of the Coalition in a legal and appropriate fashion. A financial report of Coalition will be presented at each official meeting and will be available for review by the President or Executive Committee on request.

MEMBERS' AT LARGE: There will be up to three members at large elected to the Executive Committee by the Board of Directors from the membership of the coalition.

MINISTERIAL LEADER: Will be a Pastor of Grace Brethren Church of Waldorf and a member in good standing of the coalition and available to offer spiritual guidance and counsel to the Coalition membership.

SECTION 4. REMOVAL: A member may be removed from the Coalition by a vote of three fourths (7) of the Board of Directors after allowing the member a due process hearing. A Board member may be removed from office by a no confidence vote of two thirds of the remaining Board members in writing or presence after a due process hearing. A ministerial leader may be removed by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. VACANCIES: A vacancy on the Board may be filled temporarily within 60 days by appointment of the President and for the remainder of the un-expired term by vote by the remaining members at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

SECTION 1. MEETINGS: Executive Committee meeting will be held monthly at a suitable time and place.

A Board of Directors & Membership meeting will be held at a suitable time and place every three months or as determined by the Chairman. Notice of all meetings may be given by written or verbal instruction. Each meeting will open with prayer.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS: These may be called at the discretion of the President or the Vice President.

SECTION 3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Will be held in November of each year or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The general members will be notified at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE E VI - STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Finance committee to be headed by the Treasurer will present a projected budget to the Board no later than the November meeting.

SECTION 2. Legislative committee will research and review local, statewide and national legislation and make available to the Board of Directors and membership recommendations for appropriate action.

SECTION 3. Public Relations committee will work with the President to prepare and present appropriate testimony or articles for the news media and other public forums. Will present to the Board of Directors suggestions for improving overall community awareness of the Coalition's position on issues. The Executive Committee and Chairman have ultimate responsibility for all release of information to the media and/or public.

SECTION 4. Nominating committee: The outgoing President or Vice President will chair the nominating committee. The committee will have three other active members appointed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. The President may appoint as many regular committees as he/she sees necessary to carry out the agenda of the Coalition. These committees will serve at the pleasure of the President and may be disbanded at the President's sole discretion.