

# HOUSE BILL 585

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CF 0lr2385

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By: **Delegates Kipke, Chang, and Qi**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Secretary of State – Duties – International Friendship Agreements**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the Secretary of State has the authority to form and  
4 execute an international friendship agreement that functions in a certain manner;  
5 and generally relating to the Secretary of State and international friendship  
6 agreements.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – State Government  
9 Section 7–109  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – State Government**

15 7–109.

16 **(A)** The Office of the Secretary of State shall assume lead responsibility with  
17 respect to the maintenance and development of sister–state relationships.

18 **(B) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO FORM AND**  
19 **EXECUTE AN INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT THAT MAY FUNCTION AS A**  
20 **FOUNDATION TO BUILD A SISTER–STATE RELATIONSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH**  
21 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 October 1, 2020.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



