

COMMISSION TO REVISE THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND

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Geoffrey D. Cant, *Executive Director and Revisor of Statutes*

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The Governor appointed the Commission in 1970 to undertake the first reorganization and recodification of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* in almost 100 years. The Commission studies and revises the Public General Laws of Maryland in order to improve the organization, accessibility, utility, and clarity of laws, and to eliminate unconstitutional, obsolete, and inconsistent or conflicting statutes.

The Commission periodically submits proposals and recommendations to the General Assembly. To date, the General Assembly has enacted the following revised articles proposed by the Commission: Agriculture, Commercial Law, Corporations and Associations, Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Education, Estates and Trusts, Family Law, Financial Institutions, Health-Environmental, Health-General, Health Occupations, Natural Resources, Real Property, State Government, and Transportation.

Staff services and support for the Commission are provided by the Division of Statutory Revision within the Department of Legislative Reference (Code State Government Article, secs. 2-1318 through 2-1319).

DEPARTMENT OF FISCAL SERVICES

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The Department of Fiscal Services was established by Chapter 456, Acts of 1968, succeeding the Fiscal Research Bureau created by Chapter 605, Acts of 1947. It is the financial service arm of the General Assembly and operates under the policies and directives of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Delegates, the Legislative Policy Committee, and the Joint Budget and Audit Committee. The Department provides staff services to the fiscal committees of the Legislature and to any commissions or committees that the General Assembly or the Legislative Policy Committee may appoint to study taxation or related questions.

The Department's duties also include the study and review of the State's operating and capital budgets during all phases of their development by the Executive and adoption by the Legislature, including an annual analysis submitted to the General Assembly. It prepares fiscal notes on all proposed legislation, an annual report on the fiscal impact of each legislative session, and an annual analysis of the State's bonded indebtedness. The Department studies the operation, administration, and effectiveness of State agencies and institutions, as well as State and local financial matters and fiscal interrelationships. It collects financial data on local governments, publishes an annual report on local governmental finances, and prepares evaluation reports required under the Regulatory Programs Evaluation Act of 1978. Finally, the Department provides support services to the General Assembly through printing, bill distribution, telecommunications, and the intern and page programs.