

to follow immediately after Section 56 of said Article, relating to the guardianship of incompetent veterans and of minor children of disabled or deceased veterans, and the commitment of veterans and to make uniform the Law with reference thereto.

SECTION. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That twenty-one new sections be and they are hereby added to Article 65 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Militia," said new sections to be under sub-title "Veterans' Guardianship," to be known as Sections 56A to 56U, both inclusive, to follow immediately after Section 56 of said Article and to read as follows:

56A. The term "person" includes a partnership, corporation or an association.

The term "Bureau" means the United States Veterans' Bureau or its successor.

The terms "estate" and "income" shall include only moneys received by the guardian from the Bureau and all earnings, interest and profits derived therefrom.

The term "benefits" shall mean all moneys payable by the United States through the Bureau.

The term "Director" means the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau or his successor.

The term "ward" means a beneficiary of the Bureau.

The term "guardian" as used herein shall mean any person acting as a fiduciary for a ward.

56B. Whenever, pursuant to any law of the United States or regulation of the Bureau, the Director requires, prior to payment of benefits, that a guardian be appointed for a ward, such appointment shall be made in the manner hereinafter provided.

56C. Except as hereinafter provided it shall be unlawful for any person to accept appointment as guardian of any ward if such proposed guardian shall at that time be acting as guardian for five wards. In any case, upon presentation of a petition by an attorney of the Bureau under this section alleging that a guardian is acting in a fiduciary capacity for more than five wards and requesting his discharge for that reason, the court, upon proof substantiating the petition, shall require a final accounting forthwith from such guardian and shall discharge such guardian in said case.

The limitations of this section shall not apply where the guardian is a Bank or Trust Company acting for the ward's estates only. An individual may be a guardian of more than five wards if they are all members of the same family.