

original papers, including a typewritten transcript of the testimony taken in such cases, by the Court of Appeals, as soon as possible after the same have been transmitted to said Court. Said original papers, including the testimony shall be transmitted to the Court of Appeals within ten (10) days from the taking of the appeal.

145. The Secretary of State and the Boards are hereby severally authorized and empowered to do any and all acts, the carrying out of which is committed to them by any Act of Congress providing for voting by persons who are Absentee Residents, and to accept and expend any funds made available to him or them or to the State of Maryland by Congress for the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses incurred in connection therewith, including their services. The Secretary of State and the several Boards are hereby severally authorized and empowered to use any and all facilities that may be furnished by the United States or any department, commission or agency thereof, pursuant to any Act of Congress or otherwise, for the purpose of transmitting to and from Absentee Residents applications for absentee ballots, envelopes, instructions and all other printed matter that may be permitted to be transmitted by any Act of Congress and generally to co-operate in every way with military and civil officers of the United States and with all such departments, commissions and agencies thereof in order to enable such persons to vote.

146. (a) There is hereby created a State War Ballot Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission"), which shall be composed of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the presiding officers of each House of the General Assembly, the minority leader of each House of the General Assembly, all *ex-officio*, and of two other persons to be appointed by the Governor, which persons shall not both be members of the same political party. Vacancies in the Commission shall be filled by the Governor, and every person appointed to fill a vacancy shall be a member of the same political party as that of the person in whose place he is appointed. The Commission shall meet on call of the Governor and, in the case of his absence, or disability, on call of the Secretary of State, or any three members. Five members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum and the vote of a majority of those present at any meeting of the Commission shall be necessary for a decision on any matter before the Commission. The Commission is authorized to appoint and remove at pleasure such employees as may be necessary for the performance of its duties under this subtitle and shall fix their compensation, any law of the State to the contrary notwithstanding. Employment by the Commission hereunder shall not entitle the person so employed to the benefits of any pension law of this State.