

or before July 1, 1947, and] members shall hold office until their successors are installed.

Each member must be a citizen of Maryland and engaged in producing apples in Maryland. The members of the Commission shall serve for a term of four years, [except that of those first appointed, one shall be appointed for one year, two for two years, two for three years, and two for four years]. The Commission shall elect one of its members as chairman. The members of the Commission shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred and shall be paid each the sum of \$10 per diem from the Apple Merchandising Fund when attending meetings of the Commission.

73.

(a) All funds levied and collected under this subtitle shall be administered by the Commission, *subject to approval by the Secretary of Agriculture.*

(d) The Commission, *subject to approval by the Secretary of Agriculture,* shall have authority to appoint a secretary and such other employees as may be necessary, at salaries to be fixed by the Commission. The employees of said Commission shall be covered by surety bonds in accordance with the provisions of Sections 46 through 50 of Article 78A of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

80.

All moneys collected under this subtitle shall be expended by the Maryland State Apple Commission by warrants of the Comptroller or the State Treasurer issued on vouchers signed by the [duly authorized officer of the Commission] *Secretary of Agriculture or his designee.*

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted,* That any employee, as of December 31, 1972, of the State Board of Agriculture and/or of the University of Maryland, or of an agency assigned to the Department of Agriculture, or of an agency abolished by this Act, whose principal duties are in connection with functions, powers, duties and responsibilities assigned to the Department of Agriculture pursuant to this Act, shall on January 1, 1973, become an employee of the Department of Agriculture; and if any question or dispute arises as to whether any particular employee shall become an employee of the Department of Agriculture pursuant to the provisions of this Section, the matter shall be decided by the State Secretary of Personnel after consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the President of the University of Maryland or his designee.

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted,* That all persons who are classified employees of any office, board, commission, department or agency which is attached to the Department of Agriculture or which is abolished on January 1, 1973, shall retain their merit system status, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act; AND ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PURSUANT TO SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT WHO ARE NOT CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES BUT WHO HAVE GENERALLY COMPARABLE RIGHTS AND BENEFITS UNDER THE UNIVERSITY'S EMPLOYMENT SYSTEM SHALL, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS