

have been so engaged for at least fifteen years, and who are not judges of any court; and one member shall represent the public, who shall not be a judge, active or retired, and who is not admitted to practice law in this State. The term of office of each member shall be for four years commencing on January 1 following the expiration of his predecessor's term. Whenever any member of the Commission appointed from among judges in the State ceases to be a judge, when any member appointed from among those admitted to practice law becomes a judge, when any member representing the public becomes a judge or is admitted to the practice of law in this State, or when any member ceases to be a resident of the State, in such case the membership of this member shall forthwith terminate. Any vacancies on the Commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Governor in the same manner as for making of appointments to the Commission and subject to the same qualifications which were applicable to the person causing the vacancy. No member of the Commission shall receive any compensation for his services as such but shall be allowed any expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his duties as such member.

4B.

(a) The Commission on Judicial Disabilities has the power to investigate complaints against any judge of the Court of Appeals, any intermediate courts of appeal, the Circuit Courts, [the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City,] the District Court of Maryland, OR the Orphans' Court; and to conduct hearings concerning such complaints, administer oaths and affirmations, issue process to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence, and require persons to testify and produce evidence by granting them immunity from prosecution or from penalty or forfeiture. The Commission has the power to issue a reprimand and the power to recommend to the Court of Appeals the removal, censure or other appropriate disciplining of a judge or, in an appropriate case, retirement. All proceedings, testimony, and evidence before the Commission shall be confidential and privileged, except as provided by rule of the Court of Appeals; the record and any proceeding filed with the Court of Appeals shall lose its confidential character, except as ordered by the Court of Appeals. No judge shall participate as a member of the Commission in any proceedings involving his own conduct, and the Governor shall appoint another judge as a substitute member of the Commission for those proceedings. The Court of Appeals shall prescribe by rule the means to implement and enforce the powers of the Commission and the practice and procedure before the Commission.

5.

Upon every occurrence or recurrence of a vacancy through death, resignation, removal, disqualification by reason of age or otherwise, or expiration of the term of fifteen years of any judge of a circuit court [or of the

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