[Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, except as herein provided, the Secretary shall not hereafter prohibit, prevent, disqualify or discriminate against any person who is physically and mentally qualified from competing, registering for or participating in a competitive or promotional examination held under the provisions of this article or from qualifying for a position in the classified service by reason of his or her age and/or on account of any physical defect or impairment, providing such physically impaired person shall produce a certificate from a competent medical doctor certifying that the said physically impaired person is not suffering from any physical defect or impairment which is of such a character that would interfere with the physically impaired person performing the duties of the position which the said physically impaired person is seeking.

Whenever the Secretary shall have certified to the appointing authority a list of eligibles in conformity with the provisions of § 17 of this article and such list shall contain the name of a physically impaired person, such physically impaired person shall not be rejected by the said appointing authority because of said physical impairment alone, provided said physically handicapped person is qualified to perform the duties of the position involved.]

(A)--IN--THIS-SECTION,-THE-FOLLOWING-WORDS-HAVE-THE-MEANINGS INDICATED.

+B)--"BOARD"-MEANS-THE-MEDICAL-EXAMINATION-ADVISORY-BOARD-

(C)--"MEDICAL-DIRECTOR"-MEANS-A--PERSON--DESIGNATED--BY--THE SECRETARY--TO--DETERMINE--THE--MEDICAL--QUALIFICATIONS--OF--STATE EMPLOYEES-OR-OF-APPLICANTS-FOR-STATE-EMPLOYMENT;

(D)-(1)--THERE--IS--A--MEDICAL-EXAMINATION-ADVISORY-BOARD-IN THE-DEPARTMENT:

(2) -- THE-BOARD-CONSISTS-OF:

+++--A-PHYSEC+AN7-WHO-+S÷

1---bicensed-to-practice-in-maryland;-and

2---A--SPECIALIST---EXPERIENCED---IN---THE PRACTICE-OF-REHABILITATION-MEDICINE;

(II) -- THE -- PRINCIPAL - COUNSEL - FOR - THE - DEPARTMENT;

AND

(###)--THE---STATE---COORDINATOR----FOR----EQUAL EMPLOYMENT-OPPORTUNITY.

(3)--THE--PHYSICIAN--MEMBER--OF--THE--BOARD--SHALL--BE APPOINTED--BY--THE--GOVERNOR--FOR-A-3-YEAR-TERM-AND-SHALL-RECEIVE COMPENSATION-FOR-EXPENSES: