

and with the advice and consent of the Senate, two sober and discreet persons, who shall have been residents in the city of Baltimore for three consecutive years next preceding the day of their appointment, who shall be known as the 'Board of Police Commissioners' for the city of Baltimore. One of said commissioners shall always be an adherent of each of the two leading political parties in the State, one of each of said parties. Either of said commissioners shall be subject to removal by the Governor for official misconduct or incompetency, in the manner provided by law in case of other civil officers. Each of said commissioners shall be appointed for two years, and they shall hold office until their respective successors are appointed and qualified. Each of said commissioners shall receive a salary of twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly. Before entering upon the duties of his office, each commissioner shall enter into bond to the State of Maryland, with one or more sureties, in the penalty of ten thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties as such commissioner; said bond to be approved by the Judge of the Superior Court of the city of Baltimore, and to be kept and recorded by the clerk of said court, in the office thereof, together with the certificates of appointments as aforesaid, and shall also take and subscribe before the said Judge of the Superior Court, or the clerk thereof, the oath or affirmation prescribed by the sixth section of the first Article of the Constitution, and the further oath or affirmation that in every appointment, promotion, reduction in rank, or removal to, in or from the police force created and organized under the subdivision of this Article, they will in no case, and under no pretext, appoint, promote, reduce in rank or remove any policeman, or officer of police, or detective, or any other person under them, for or on account of the political opinions or affiliations of such policeman, officer, detective or other person, or for any other cause, reason than the fitness or unfitness of such person, in the best judgment of said commissioners, for the place to which he shall be appointed, or from which he shall be removed, and the said oath or affirmation shall be recorded and preserved among the records of said court.

"741. The Mayor of the city of Baltimore shall,