DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

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The Department of Legislative Reference was originally created in 1906 to serve the City of Baltimore; in 1916 the scope of the Department was enlarged to serve the State as well. The Department collects, compiles and indexes information on all questions of proposed legislation. The Department investigates and reports on the laws of Maryland and other States at the request of the Governor, any committee or member of the General Assembly, or any State agency. At the request of a member of the General Assembly, the Department prepares or aids in the drafting of any law or resolution. During sessions of the General Assembly, the Department maintains offices in the State House at Annapolis. Each department of the State Government is required to transmit to the Department of Legislative Reference at least two copies of each of its reports which are used for exchange and reference purposes by the agency. To aid in their research, the Department maintains a complete index and a complete file on all bills introduced in the General Assembly from 1908 to the present, the Codes and Laws of other States, and a library comprising 19,000 books and 56,000 pamphlets and reports, in addition to a number of periodicals and clippings from magazines and newspapers. The Department also has supervision of the Archives of Baltimore City (Code 1939 and 1947 Supp., Art. 41, secs. 100-103).

Fiscal Research Bureau

The Fiscal Research Bureau was established by Act of the General Assembly in 1947 within the Department of Legislative Reference. Its general duties include the collection of data on the revenue and appropriations of the political sub-divisions of the State, the study of State and local taxation, the study of State and local fiscal relationships, and assisting State commissions and the committees of the General Assembly on tax and fiscal matters. Each county, incorporated city or town or special taxing district of 2,500 or more population is required to submit a copy of its annual fiscal report to the Bureau (Code 1939 and 1947 Supp., Art. 41, secs. 103A-103H).

Expenditures Appropriations 1950 1951

Legislative Reference \$10,462.74 \$15,723.00

Fiscal Research Bureau 16,750.00 19,089.00

Staff (Fiscal Research Bureau): 3.

Staff (Legislative Reference): 2.

COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PROMOTION OF UNIFORMITY OF LEGISLATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Chairman: C. Walter Cole, 1955
Eugene G. Feinblatt, 1955; Roger Howell, 1955
Masonic Building, Towson 4
Telephone: Towson 8465

The Governor, every fourth year, appoints this Board of three Commissioners, who represent Maryland in the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The Commissioners examine into and ascertain the best means to effect uniformity in the laws of the States. They meet on call of the Chairman to determine what