

## SECRETARY OF STATE

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The office of Secretary of State was created in 1837 by a Constitutional Amendment. The Secretary of State is appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate to a term to run concurrently with that of the Governor unless removed by the Governor (Const. 1867, Art. II, sec. 22). His office keeps a record of all appointments made by the Governor for State and local positions. The commissions for these various positions are issued by his office as Special Police commissions which are granted by the Governor to private businesses for the protection of their property (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., 1969 Supp., Art. 41, sec. 66); and Notary Public commissions which are granted upon the recommendation of the local State Senator and upon appointment by the Governor (Art. 68, 1969 Supp., sec. 1). His office also keeps a record of trademarks, trade names, and service marks used within the State (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, secs. 90-103); a registry of all legislative agents and counsels, the legislative subjects in which they are interested, the amounts they receive and expend for such activity (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 40, secs. 5-14), and a record of all defaulting corporations which can only be reinstated by proclamation of the Governor upon the request of the Department of Assessments and Taxation. The Secretary of State is also the legally designated attorney of nonresident drivers, aviators, and aircraft owners involved in accidents in Maryland. All processes or warrants served upon him in this connection have the same legal effect as though they were served upon the individual (Code 1957, 1967 Repl. Vol., Art. 66½, sec. 115; 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 75, secs. 76-78). All administrative regulations adopted by any State officer or department must be filed with the Secretary of State in the form designated by him, and these regulations must be kept on record open to public inspection (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 9). His office prepares and records all requisitions and extraditions as well as pardons and commutations granted by the Governor. It also keeps a record of all Trading Stamp Companies doing business in Maryland as well as a statement of registration accompanied by representative samples of stamps, stamp collection books, stamp redemption catalogues and stamp distribution and redemption agreement forms currently used in the State (1968 Repl. Vol., Art. 56, sec. 242). The office also keeps a record of all charitable organizations and contributions received by them (Art. 41, secs. 103A-103E), and handles requests for the Maryland State Flag. In this regard, upon request, the Secretary of State will provide a Maryland flag to servicemen in Viet Nam. The Secretary of State also receives all bills passed by the legislature and assigns chapter numbers to each. He certifies the Governor's signatures on these bills as well as other official State documents. His office handles petitions for, and processing of, charter and constitutional amendments, and provides for the publication of these in the appropriate newspapers. By Chapter 560, Acts of 1969, the Secretary of State must receive the certification of candidacy for candidates for election as delegates to a national convention and the certificates of delegates selected by the State Party Convention as Convention delegates. The Secretary of State also divides and transmits the fees received by him from such candidates to the board of each county within the respective congressional district and to the board in Baltimore City for any Congressional district wholly or partly therein. He