

Appointed members: Stanley J. Frank, 1983; Howard E. Marshall, 1983; Gladys Sprinkle, 1983; James Truitt, 1983

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The Employees Retirement Review Board was created by Chapter 720, Acts of 1974, to hear appeals by individual State employees, including members of the Teachers Retirement System, who desire to continue their employment after the mandatory retirement age of seventy has been reached and their application for continuation has been denied by their agency. The Board consists of eight members consisting of the Secretary of Personnel or his designee, the Director of Aging, a physician designated by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers Retirement System, and four members appointed by the Governor for four-year terms. The Board selects its own chairperson (Code 1957, Art. 73B, secs. 11(1) to 11(2)).

MARYLAND STATE EMPLOYEES SURETY BOND COMMITTEE

William S. James, *State Treasurer*; Louis L. Goldstein, *Comptroller of the Treasury*; Stephen H. Sachs, *Attorney General of Maryland*.

This Committee was created by Chapter 702, Acts of 1967. It consists of the State Treasurer, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the Attorney General of Maryland or their designated representatives. Its duty is to set the type and the amount of the bonds of all State officers and employees who are required to be bonded. All others are to be bonded with the type, the amount, and the term to be determined by the Committee. The Comptroller of the Treasury is to keep a record of the bond, giving the name of the officers or the employee for whom the bond is issued, the name of the agency in which the person bonded is employed, the name of the agencies covered, the name of the company issuing the bond, its amount, date, time of expiration, and certificates of renewal (Code 1957, Art. 78A, secs. 46-50).

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Chairperson: Herbert J. Belgrad, 1984

Rev. John Wesley Holland, 1982; Jervis S. Finney, 1983; Barbara M. Steckel, 1985.

John E. O'Donnell, *Executive Director*

Nancy L. Speck, *General Counsel*

Frederick M. Brandes, *Staff Counsel*

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By Chapter 513, Acts of 1979, the State Ethics Commission was established for the purpose of guarding against improper influence on public officials and officers by requiring disclosure of their financial affairs and by setting minimum standards for the conduct of state and local business. The act establishing the Commission abolished the Maryland Public Disclosure Advisory Board and the State Board of Ethics.

The State Ethics Commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. One member is nominated by the president of the Senate, one member is nominated by the speaker of the House of Delegates, and of the three remaining members one must be a member of the other principal political party to which the incumbent governor does not belong. The Commission elects its own chairperson and appoints an executive director, a general counsel, and a staff counsel.

The Commission's authority encompasses conflicts of interest, financial disclosure, and lobbying disclosure.

The State Ethics Commission has the following major functions: First, the rendering of advisory opinions concerning the application of the Maryland Public Ethics law at the request of persons subject to the law and commission's jurisdiction. The Commission may issue an advisory opinion concerning the application of the law at the request of any other person if the Commission deems the request appropriate. Second, the investigation of complaints made to the Commission alleging a violation of the provisions of the Maryland Public Ethics Law. The Commission may also issue and investigate complaints on its own initiative. Third, receiving and reviewing financial disclosure statements filed by those covered by the law and required to file with the Commission. Fourth, receipt and review of lobbyist registration and activity reports. Fifth, assisting and monitoring the activity of local government in implementing local government public ethics laws as required by the State statute. Sixth, the provision of training and information to those covered by the statute and to the general public. Seventh,