

by the Governor; the receipt and retention of county and municipal charter amendments and related matters; the regulation of raffles of real property (Code 1957, Art. 27, sec. 236); and the recordation of all Governor's pardons and commutations. The Secretary is authorized to place upon the presidential primary ballot the names of those candidates determined to be generally advocated or recognized in the media (Code 1957, Art. 33, sec. 12-2). Through its Division of State Documents, all regulations promulgated by State agencies are published in the *Maryland Register* and the *Code of Maryland Regulations* (COMAR) (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 104-106).

Every two years the Secretary issues the *Maryland Manual* (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 104-106).

Division of State Documents

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The Division of State Documents was created within the Office of the Secretary of State in 1974. The administrator is appointed by the Governor and is responsible for the administration of the State Documents Law (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 131B-131D, 256B-256T).

The primary duties of the Division are to print and distribute two official State publications: (1) the *Code of Maryland Regulations* (COMAR), the permanent compilation of the Governor's executive orders, all State agency regulations, and all opinions issued by the State Ethics Commission, and (2) the *Maryland Register*, a bi-weekly publication that serves as a temporary supplement to COMAR.

The *Register* prints all proposed, adopted, and emergency regulations of the State's administrative agencies, notices of public hearings and meetings, synopses of opinions of the Attorney General, proposed and adopted rules of court, hearing calendars of the Courts of Appeal, synopses of all

legislation proposed, enacted, and vetoed each legislative session of the General Assembly, synopses of significant decisions by the Employment Security Administration's Board of Appeals, all Executive Orders, all gubernatorial appointments, notices of bids requested and awards announced on all State contracts valued above \$25,000, and any other document the General Assembly requires or the Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review (AELR) permits to be published. An index to the *Register* is published quarterly, with the last quarterly index being cumulative for the year. All adopted regulations, and Executive Orders that are generally permanent in nature, are periodically taken from the pages of the *Register* and integrated into COMAR by means of published supplements.

Administrative regulations are not effective (except emergency regulations) until notice of their adoption is published in the *Maryland Register*. The text of any document appearing in the *Maryland Register* and COMAR is the only official, valid, and enforceable text of that document. Any document appearing in the *Maryland Register* and COMAR is accorded judicial notice in all court proceedings.

Subscription information and free informational brochures pertaining to both the *Maryland Register* and COMAR may be obtained by writing or calling the Division's offices.

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