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Baltimore 21202

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The Maryland Home Improvement Commission was established by Chapter 133, Acts of 1962. The Commission licenses and regulates contractors and salesmen in the home improvement industry, investigates complaints filed by homeowners against individuals operating as home improvement contractors, and takes administrative or legal action when violations of the law are found.

The Commission consists of five members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation. Two members must be from the home-improvement industry, one from the field of banking or finance, and two from the general public.

Authorization for the Commission continues until July 1, 1992 (Code 1957, Art. 56, secs. 245-269A).

REAL ESTATE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND

Chairperson: Donald E. Howard, 1988

William C. Harloff, 1985; James C. Latham, 1985; Michael P. Goodfellow, 1986; Robert E. Mitchell, 1986; Albert L. Jones, 1987; Daniel W. Spaulding, 1987; John J. Moran, Jr., 1988.

Executive Director: Charles G. Chambers

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Originally established by Chapter 351, Acts of 1939, the Real Estate Commission of Maryland licenses all real estate brokers and salespersons doing business in Maryland. Each applicant for a real estate salesperson's or broker's license must complete courses relating to the principles of real estate in order to qualify for examination.

The Commission has the power to revoke, refuse, suspend, issue an official notice of reprimand, and/or impose a penalty of up to \$2,000 per violation to the license of any person for violating the real estate laws or for unethical conduct. By Chapter 648, Acts of 1971, the Commission administers the Real Estate Guaranty Fund of Maryland, which in essence bonds all licensees.

The Commission is composed of eight members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and

Regulation and the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the members, one each represents the Eastern Shore, Central Maryland, Baltimore City, Southern Maryland, and Western Maryland, and three represent the State at large. The at large members cannot be engaged in the real estate business. All members must be citizens and residents of the area for which they were appointed for not less than five years, and, except for the at large members, they must have been actively engaged in the real estate business for ten years prior to appointment (Code 1957, Art. 56, secs. 212-232).

Authorization for the Commission continues until July 1, 1992 (Chapter 519, Acts of 1982).

REAL ESTATE HEARING BOARD

The Real Estate Hearing Board was created by Chapter 89, Acts of 1968. The law permits the Real Estate Commission to appoint, with the approval of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation, three of its members to sit as a real estate hearing board. The Commission designates one of its members as Board chairperson, while all Commission members serve on the Board on a rotating basis.

The Commission may refer charges or complaints made by itself or other persons to the Board for hearings. The Board holds hearings on all matters referred to it and submits its findings and recommendations to the Commission (Code 1957, Art. 56, sec. 224A).

Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 1988 (Chapter 375, Acts of 1981).

LICENSING BOARDS

Executive Director: John A. Evans

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The Executive Director of the Licensing Boards provides centralized administrative staff for the Maryland Architectural Registration Board; Maryland Statewide Master Electrical Licensing Board; State Board of Examining Engineers; State Board of Registration for Foresters; Board of Examiners for Hearing Aid Dealers; Maryland Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects; Board of Examiners of Maryland Pilots; The State Board of Commissioners of Practical Plumbing; State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers; State Board of Registration for Professional Land Surveyors; Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy; and the Licensure of Secondhand