

The Governor is the chief executive officer of the State and the commander in chief of its military forces. Elected by popular vote for a term of four years, the Governor's term of office begins on the third Wednesday of January following election. No person may serve as Governor for more than two consecutive terms. To be eligible for the office of Governor, a person must be at least thirty years of age and must have been a resident and registered voter of the State for five years immediately preceding election. The Governor receives the salary recommended prior to each election by the Governor's Salary Commission and approved by the General Assembly. Until 1990, the Governor's salary is \$85,000 per year (Const. 1867, Art. II, secs. 1, 3, 5, 21, 21A).

The Governor must submit to each annual session of the General Assembly a budget for the next ensuing fiscal year. The Governor may also inform the General Assembly at any time of the condition of the State (Const. 1867, Art. II, sec. 19; Art. III, sec. 52(3)).

Every bill passed by the General Assembly, except the annual Budget Bill, must be presented to the Governor before it becomes law. If the Governor approves the bill he may sign it, and if he disapproves he may veto it. Any bill that the Governor vetoes may be passed without his signature by three-fifths of the total number of members of each house of the General Assembly, either at the current session or at the session next following. If a bill is presented more than six days before the General Assembly adjourns and is not vetoed within six days, or if a bill is presented within six days prior to the adjournment of the General Assembly and is not vetoed within thirty days after its presentment, then the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature. The Governor has the power to veto any part of an appropriations bill, in the same manner as other bills, without vetoing it in its entirety (Const. 1867, Art. II, sec. 17; Art. III, sec. 52(6)).

The Governor is commander in chief of the military forces of the State—the National Guard—except when such forces are called into the national service. If the National Guard is thus called, the Governor may establish a State Guard.

The Governor appoints all military and civil officers of the State subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, except when the election or appointment of such officers is otherwise provided for. In addition to appointing the heads of major departments, boards, and commissions of the State government, the Governor appoints certain boards and commissions in each county and the City of Baltimore, as provided for by law. The Governor also commissions notaries public and appoints persons to fill vacancies in the offices of Attorney General, Comptroller, and members of the General Assembly. Any officer appointed by the Governor, except members of the General Assembly, is removable by him for cause.

The Governor may grant pardons to persons convicted of criminal acts against the State, commute the sentences of prisoners of the State, and remit fines and forfeitures for offenses against the State. The Governor may extradite prisoners or persons wanted by other states upon the presentation of a writ of extradition and may issue a warrant for the arrest of any person so wanted. The Governor may also ask for the return to this State of any prisoner or person of another state wanted for the violation of the laws of Maryland (Const. 1867, Art. II, sec. 20).

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

William Donald Schaefer, *Governor*

Melvin A. Steinberg, *Lieutenant Governor*

Winfield M. Kelly, Jr., *Secretary of State*

Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., *Secretary of Agriculture*

Charles L. Benton, Jr., *Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning*

J. Randall Evans, *Secretary of Economic and Employment Development*

Martin W. Walsh, Jr., *Secretary of the Environment*

Earl F. Seboda, *Secretary of General Services*

Adele Wilzack, *Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene*

Jacqueline H. Rogers, *Secretary of Housing and Community Development*

Ruth Massinga, *Secretary of Human Resources*

William A. Fogle, Jr., *Secretary of Licensing and Regulation*