

Juvenile Services Initiative; Maryland Legislative Information System (MLIS) Steering Committee; Special Joint Committee on the MED-EVAC Program; Special Joint Committee on Pensions; Special Joint Committee on Ports; Savings and Loan Oversight Committee; Special Joint Committee on Tax Reform; Vehicle Emission Inspection Program (VEIP) Task Force.

LEGISLATIVE AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

F. Carvel Payne, *Director*

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The Department of Legislative Reference was originally created in 1906 to serve the City of Baltimore (Chapter 565, Acts of 1906). In 1916, the Department also began to serve the State (Chapter 474, Acts of 1916). The State's portion of the Department was transferred in 1965 to the Legislative Branch (Chapter 453, Acts of 1965). The present Department dates its current organization from 1966, when it separated from the department of the same name in Baltimore City (Chapter 571, Acts of 1966).

The Department collects, compiles, and indexes information on all questions of proposed legislation. It investigates and reports on the laws of Maryland and other states at the request of the Governor, any committee or member of the General Assembly, or any State agency. At the request of a member of the General Assembly, the Department prepares or aids in the drafting of any law or resolution.

The Department keeps a complete index and a complete file on all bills introduced in the General Assembly from 1918 to the present. It also keeps copies of the codes and laws of other states, and it maintains a library of books, pamphlets, reports, periodicals, and clippings on matters of current public and political interest (Code State Government Article, secs. 2-1301 through 2-1309). Each department of State government must transmit to the Department of Legislative Reference at least two copies of each of its reports, which are used for exchange and reference purposes.

The Department operates through the Office of the Director and five divisions that provide: legislative drafting and staffing services, statutory revision, research, library and information services, and computer and proofreading services.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Michael I. Volk, *Director* Telephone: 841-3849

William G. Somerville, *Principal Analyst*
Telephone: 841-3870

The Legislative Services Division provides several specific staff services to the General Assembly. The Division drafts or reviews nearly all bills and amendments introduced or considered by the General Assembly. In a typical year, the Division writes over 3,500 bills and joint resolutions and prepares over 2,000 amendments to them.

The Division also provides professional staff services to six of the ten major committees of the General Assembly (4 House committees and 2 Senate committees). During the annual legislative session, these members of the Division work under the specific direction of committee chairpersons, and under the general direction of the Division. During the interim between sessions, the Division provides staff support for several legislative statutory and special joint committees, task forces, and commissions. The Division staff also helps prepare informational materials and reports distributed by the Department to the General Assembly.

DIVISION OF STATUTORY REVISION

Elizabeth Buckler Veronis, *Director and Revisor of Statutes*

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The Division of Statutory Revision was created in 1972 within the Department of Legislative Reference (Chapter 182, Acts of 1972). The Division, also known as the Code Revision Division, is administered by the Revisor of Statutes, appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Delegates. With Division staff, the Revisor of Statutes directs the ongoing preparation of comprehensive revision and restatement of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, i.e. the statutory body of the laws of Maryland (Code State Government Article, secs. 2-1315 through 2-1319).

Until 1985, the Revisor and the Division worked under the supervision of the Commission to Revise the Annotated Code. The Commission,