

The State Commission on Kidney Disease was created in 1971 (Chapter 492, Acts of 1971). The Commission oversees a program of State assistance throughout Maryland for persons with chronic renal disease.

The Commission gathers and disseminates information on the treatment of chronic renal disease in the State. It also sets physical and medical standards for the operation of dialysis and renal transplantation centers and sets standards for the acceptance of a patient into the treatment phase of such programs. Patients accepted for treatment are eligible for State medical assistance. For the public and providers of health services, the Commission also institutes and supervises educational programs on kidney disease and its treatment and prevention.

The Governor appoints the Commission's twelve members to four-year terms. The Commission selects the executive director (Code Health—General Article, secs. 13-301 through 13-307).

STATE BOARD OF MORTICIANS

Thomas J. Murphy III, *President*, 1999

Elizabeth Groninger, *Administrator*

4201 Patterson Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21215—2299 (410) 764-4792

The State Board of Morticians was established as the State Board of Undertakers of Maryland in 1902 (Chapter 160, Acts of 1902). In 1937, it was renamed the State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers. The Board received its present name in 1981 (Chapter 8, Acts of 1981).

Every funeral director and mortician in the State must register with and procure a license from the Board. The Board sets the standards for the practice of mortuary science in the State and examines applicants for licensure. The Board renews licenses every two years and has the power to suspend or revoke any license. The Board makes regulations for the enforcement of laws regarding funeral directing and mortuary science.

Upon recommendation of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene and with Senate consent, the Governor appoints the Board's twelve members to four-year terms. Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 2002 (Code Health Occupations Article, secs. 7-101 through 7-602).

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

Carville D. Duncan, Jr., *Chair*, 1996

Hilary H. Klein, R.N., *Vice-Chair*, 1996

Howard E. White, *Executive Director*

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Established in 1970, the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators examines, licenses, and registers nursing home administrators

(Chapter 262, Acts of 1970). Licenses must be renewed with the Board every two years. They may be revoked or suspended for cause. The Board also studies nursing homes and their administrators.

The Board is composed of eleven members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor upon recommendation of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Governor names the chair and vice-chair. The Board appoints the executive secretary. Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 2003 (Code Health Occupations Article, secs. 9-101 through 9-502).

STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE

Betty Cox, C.O.T.A./L., *Co-Chair*, 1997

Elena A. Skittle-Watson, O.T.R./L., *Co-Chair*, 1998

Donna Ashman, *Administrator*

4201 Patterson Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21215—2299 (410) 764-4728

The State Board of Occupational Therapy Practice was created in 1978 (Chapter 909, Acts of 1978). The Board administers, coordinates, and enforces the provisions of the Maryland Occupational Therapy Practice Act. The Board evaluates the qualifications of applicants for licensure and supervises the examination of applicants. It keeps a current list of licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

The Board's seven members are appointed for four-year terms by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 2004 (Code Health Occupations Article, secs. 9-201 through 9-502).

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

Calvin J. Osterman, O.D., *President*, 1996

Barbara A. Curtis, *Administrator*

4201 Patterson Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21215—2299 (410) 764-4725

Formed in 1914, the State Board of Examiners in Optometry administers the optometry laws of the State and regulates the practice of optometry (Chapter 652, Acts of 1914). It examines, licenses, and registers applicants, and may revoke any certificate of registration or examination for just cause.

The Board consists of seven persons appointed to four-year terms by the Governor upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene from nominees of the Maryland Optometric Association. Two members are consumers appointed by the Governor on recommendation of the Secretary with Senate advice and consent. Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 2003 (Code Health Occupations Article, secs. 11-101 through 11-602).