

SEC. 65-A. A Merit Board shall be named by the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis, consisting of three members, all of whom shall be registered voters of the City of Annapolis for three years prior to their appointment and not being members of the said Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis, and two of whom shall be adherents of the leading political parties, one each of said parties which shall make up, as provided in this Act, eligible lists from which appointments and promotions as members of the Police Force of Annapolis shall be made, and such appointments and promotions shall be made in no other manner. At some time prior to January 1, 1925, the said Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis shall elect the three members of the Merit Board, one for a term of two years, one for a term of four years and one for a term of six years, specifying the term of each so elected, and upon the expiration of such terms, the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen shall elect successors for the term of six years in each case. The members shall serve without pay and be subject to dismissal by the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis for misconduct or incompetency.

SEC. 65-B. The Merit Board constituted by this Act shall organize by the election of a president and the City Clerk shall act as its secretary. It shall make provision for the appointment and promotion of members of the Police Force of Annapolis, such regulations to be approved by the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis. It shall hold examinations to test the moral, mental, physical and educational qualifications of applicants and either accept or reject same. It shall prepare an eligible list in order of merit of those who are accepted. In the appointment of any applicant by said Merit Board no consideration is to be given to political or ecclesiastical ties or connections and it is to be kept entirely free from political and religious differences, controversies and influences.

SEC. 65-C. Appointments and promotions must be made by the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis from the eligible list prepared by the Merit Board. Appointees will be on probation for two years after their appointment and may be dropped by the Merit Board, with the approval of the Mayor, Counselor and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis, if deemed unsuitable for police work. After two years of service, members of the Police Force may be removed by the Merit Board only for official misconduct, inefficiency or physical dis-