

and exercising the rights, powers, obligations, duties, and functions now or hereafter conferred by law.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, and 8G of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement) be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That fifteen new sections be and the same are hereby added to Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), to follow immediately after Article 88A and the title as amended, to be known as Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, and 8G of said Article, and to read as follows:

1. The "Department of Charities", the "Board of State Aid and Charities" and the office of "Director of Charities" are hereby abolished.

There is hereby created and established a new State Department, to be known as the "State Department of Public Welfare". All the rights, powers, duties, obligations and functions heretofore conferred by law upon the Department of Charities are hereby transferred to, and hereafter shall be exercised and performed by the State Department of Public Welfare, as the lawful successor thereto. Wherever in the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland the term "Department of Charities" appears, there shall be substituted therefor the term "State Department of Public Welfare"; wherever the term "Board of State Aid and Charities" appears, the term "State Department of Public Welfare" shall be substituted therefor.

The Board of Public Welfare shall appoint a competent person to act as Director of Public Welfare, and as Secretary to the Board of Public Welfare, who shall be paid for his services such compensation as may be provided in the budget. The Director shall be a competent person having adequate training and practical experience in social welfare work; and in making said appointment, the Board shall be governed by Article 64A of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland. The Director shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. The present Executive Secretary of the Department of Charities shall retain his present status under the merit system, and be reclassified as the first Director of Public Welfare.

2. There is hereby created and established a Board of Public Welfare, consisting of seven members to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be designated by the Governor as Chairman. One member of such Board shall be