

*“Classification Title” or “Title” means the designation given, under this Act, to a class and to each position in the class and to the employee in each position in the class; “Merit System” means the Merit System of the State of Maryland.*

*52C. The County Commissioners shall promptly after the effective date of this Act adopt rules and regulations governing the following subjects:*

*(a) Standards and qualifications for each position within the Classified System and a classification title for each such position.*

*(b) Minimum and maximum salary schedules with provisions for increments based on term of service for each classified position. ~~once~~ ONCE adopted, such salary scales shall not be decreased.*

*(c) The employment of employees of the classified service, which rules and regulations shall provide a schedule of hours of employment, holidays, sick leaves and vacations, and which rules and regulations may be amended or added to by the County Commissioners.*

*(d) The method of selections of new employees, including suitable provision for competitive examinations and notice of vacancies.*

*52D. Upon the adoption of classifications and salary schedules for each position in the Classified Service, the employee then filling the respective positions shall automatically and without examination, become a classified employee of the classified system, subject to all of the provisions hereunder; provided that an employee receiving a higher salary than that provided in the salary schedule shall not have his or her salary decreased, or increased until adjustments for increments to which he or she is entitled shall have exceeded the salary being received.*

*52E. The County Commissioners, when an emergency arises and time will not permit compliance with the provisions of this Act or any regulation adopted thereunder may make an emergency appointment for a period not to exceed four months, and such employee shall be known as an emergency employee and have no status as a classified employee.*

*52F. The County Commissioners shall by rule prescribe standards of performance, for any positions or classes of positions and the County Commissioners shall have author-*