

Edition), being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", sub-heading "Pensions", authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to establish and maintain a new system of pensions and retirement benefits and relating generally to the pensions and retirement benefits for employees of Baltimore City.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 6 (22) of the Charter and Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (1949 Edition), being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", sub-heading "Pensions", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and all to read as follows:

6.

(22) (a) To establish and maintain a general system of pensions and retirement benefits for the officers and employees of the City, the Police Department of Baltimore City, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Walters Art Gallery, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Municipal Museum of Baltimore City, and the officers and employees, by whatever authority appointed, whose compensation is paid by the City; to fix the terms of and restrictions on admission to such system and the classifications therein; to provide for the separate maintenance, or inclusion in such general pension system, of any existing pension system (with the consent of a majority of its participants) for officers and employees, by whatever authority appointed, whose compensation is paid by the City; to provide that persons eligible for admission in such general pension system shall not be eligible, except as hereinafter provided, for admission to any other pension system, the revenues of which are derived wholly or in part from appropriations made by the City, from license fees or from fines and forfeitures imposed under laws or ordinances in force in Baltimore City; to provide, in connection with such general pension system, a system of benefits payable to the beneficiaries and dependents of any participant in such general pension system after the death of such participant (whether accidental or otherwise and/or whether occurring in the actual performance of duty or otherwise), subject to such exceptions, conditions, restrictions and classifications as may be provided by ordinance; provided, however, (1) that upon the adoption of an ordinance providing for their participation in the general pension system, officers and employees of said Police Department who do not elect to participate in such general pension system shall be entitled to pensions, benefits or allowances for themselves, their widows or dependents, under laws or ordinances in force immediately prior to the adoption of such ordinance; and (2) that nothing in this sub-section shall operate or be construed to diminish in any way the rights of any members of the Fire Department who are not participants in the presently existing general pension system of the City, their widows or dependents, to pensions, benefits or allowances provided for by laws or ordinances in force as of January 1, 1926.

(b) *To establish and maintain a new system of pensions and retirement benefits applicable to all future entrants into the service of the City of Baltimore, whose entrance therein occurs after the establishment of such new system; to provide the conditions under which employees in service at the time of the establishment of such new system who desire to be covered by the provisions of the Federal*