

~~health and safety of all employees and places of employment in this State, including employees of the State Government, transferring to said new division the present safety work performed by the Department of Labor and Industry, the Safety Division of the Industrial Accident Commission, the Bureau of Mines and other State offices and agencies, placing the Board of Boiler Rules under the Commissioner of Labor and Industry and the Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Board; relating to the location of the main office of the Bureau of Mines, and relating generally to the occupational health and safety of the people of this State.~~

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 16-36, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 89 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Department of Labor and Industry", said new sections to follow immediately after Section 15 thereof and to be under the new sub-title "Occupational ~~Health and Safety~~", and to read as follows:

*Occupational ~~Health and Safety~~*

16. *Definitions. When used in this sub-title: (a) "Employer" includes any person acting directly or indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an employee or to a place of employment;*

*(b) "Employee" includes any person suffered or permitted to work by an employer;*

*(c) "Persons" means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, business trust, receiver, trustee, legal representative, or successor to any of the foregoing;*

*(d) "Place of Employment" means any place in or about which an employee is suffered or permitted to work.*

17. *Employer's duty as to safety and health. Every employer shall furnish and maintain employment and a place of employment which shall be reasonably safe and healthful for employees. Every employer shall install, maintain and use such methods, processes, devices and safeguards, including methods of sanitation and hygiene, as are reasonably necessary to protect the life, health and safety of such employees, and shall do every other thing reasonably necessary to render safe such employment and place of employment.*

18. *Safety programs. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to aid and assist employers in carrying out their responsibilities under Section 17 and to suggest and recommend to employers or groups of employers methods and procedures by which they may develop safety programs to carry out such responsibilities. Within the Department of Labor and Industry, there shall be a Division of Industrial Safety, under the direction of a Director of Industrial Safety, which on behalf of and under the Commissioner of Labor and Industry shall administer the provisions of this sub-title. The Division of Industrial Safety shall have such clerks, inspectors and other employees and such legal and technical assistants as shall be provided from time to time in the Budget. The Director and all other full-time employees of the Division of Industrial Safety shall be subject generally to the provisions of Article 64A of the Code, title "Merit System".*