

CHAPTER 343

(House Bill 258)

AN ACT to add five (5) new sections to Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Courts," to be under a new sub-title "Administrative Office of the Courts," said new sections to follow immediately after Section 6 of said Article and to be known as Sections 6A to 6E, inclusive, providing for the establishment of an Administrative Office of the Courts, its personnel, duties and functions.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That five (5) new sections be and they are hereby added to Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Courts," to be under a new sub-title "Administrative Office of the Courts," said new sections to follow immediately after Section 6 of said Article, to be known as Sections 6A to 6E, inclusive, and to read as follows:

Administrative Office of the Courts

6A. *There is hereby created an Administrative Office of the Courts, which shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland and shall hold office during the pleasure of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Said Director shall receive such compensation as shall be provided in the State Budget, and may be a full or part time employee engaged in other employment by the State. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall have a seal in such form as shall be approved by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland and judicial notice shall be taken of such seal by the courts of this State.*

6B. *The Director shall have power, with the approval of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, to appoint such stenographers, clerical assistants and other employees as he shall deem necessary to carry out the performance of his duties, and the persons so appointed shall receive such compensation as shall be provided in the State Budget. During his term of office or employment, neither the Director nor any employee of the Administrative Office of the Courts shall engage directly or indirectly in the practice of law in any of the courts of this State.*

6C. *The Director shall, under the supervision and direction of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland:*

(a) *Examine the state of the dockets of the courts and determine the need for assistance by any court;*

(b) *Make recommendations to the Chief Judge relating to the assignment of judges where courts are in need of assistance and carry out the directions of the Chief Judge as to the assignments of judges to places where the courts are in need of assistance;*

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.